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The Henry Lee Society

Presents

Henry Lee of Bertie County, N.C. and
Henry Lee of Gates County, N.C., 18th Century.

By Henry Lee King 1986

Mrs. Opal Hollis, President
Mrs. Reba Wilson, Genealogy Chairman

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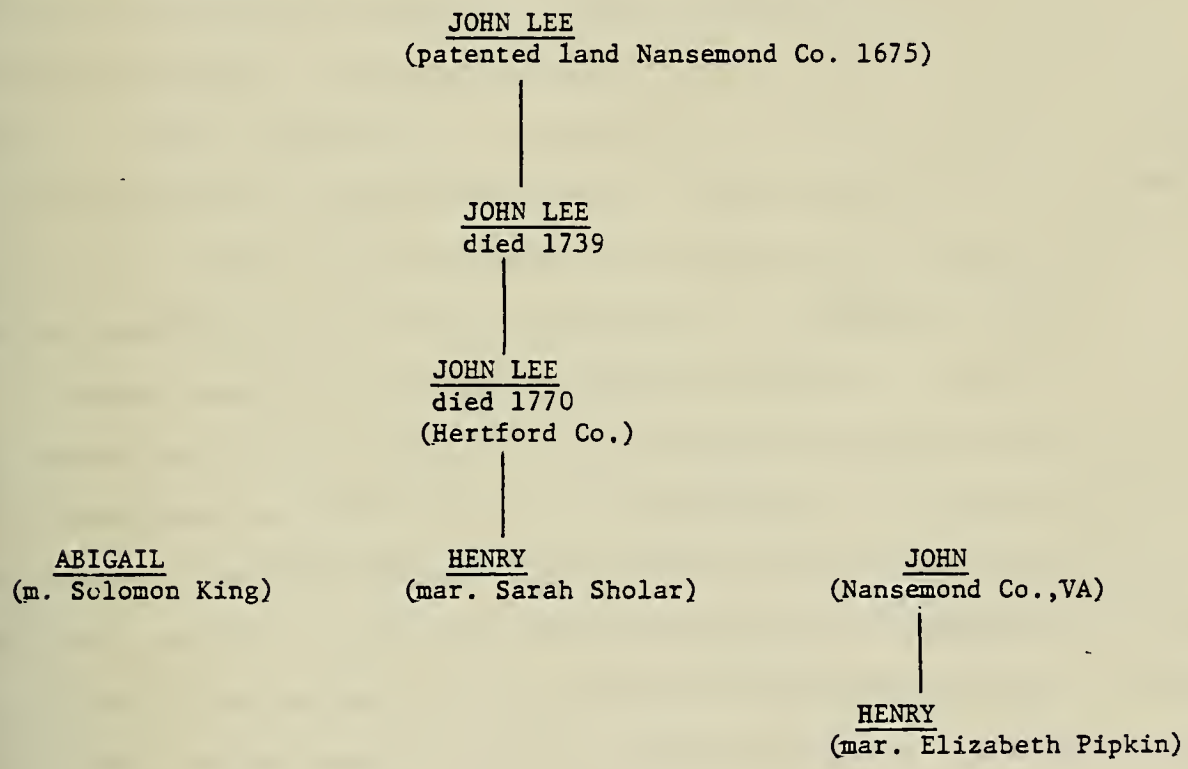
SUMMARY

The records of the North Carolina State Archives have been searched in an attempt to determine the ancestors of both the HENRY LEE who lived in Bertie Co. and the HENRY LEE who lived in Gates Co. during the later part of the eighteenth century. As a result of this effort the most probable lineage, in the opinion of this author, is as shown in the following chart. The two HENRY LEEs are most certainly related. The chart shows the most likely way this occurs. Records which have survived are not sufficient to prove either line conclusively. Other genealogical tools, however, suggest the connections as shown.



This Research is By Henry Lee King
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Cary NC 27511

INTRODUCTION

On July 8, 1986 an agreement was reached with officers of the HENRY LEE SOCIETY in regards to certain areas of research to be undertaken for the Society. The specific area of interest was to determine the ancesters of HENRY LEE who lived in Bertie Co. in the later part of the eighteenth century, married Sarah Sholar, and died in Guilford Co. This lineage had previously been researched by Reba Wilson and Betty Glover and was published in "The Lees and Kings of Virginia and North Carolina". These were the same officers of the HENRY LEE SOCIETY who approached this researcher to search the North Carolina State Archives in Raleigh, NC in order to verify or correct the lineages they had presented in their book. The first request was to establish or disprove that the JOHN LEE who lived in Onslow Co. in the later part of the eighteenth century was the father of the above mentioned HENRY LEE. This work, which showed conclusively that JOHN LEE of Onslow Co. was not the father of this HENRY LEE, was completed and a report of these findings submitted to Mrs. Wilson, genealogist for the HENRY LEE SOCIETY.

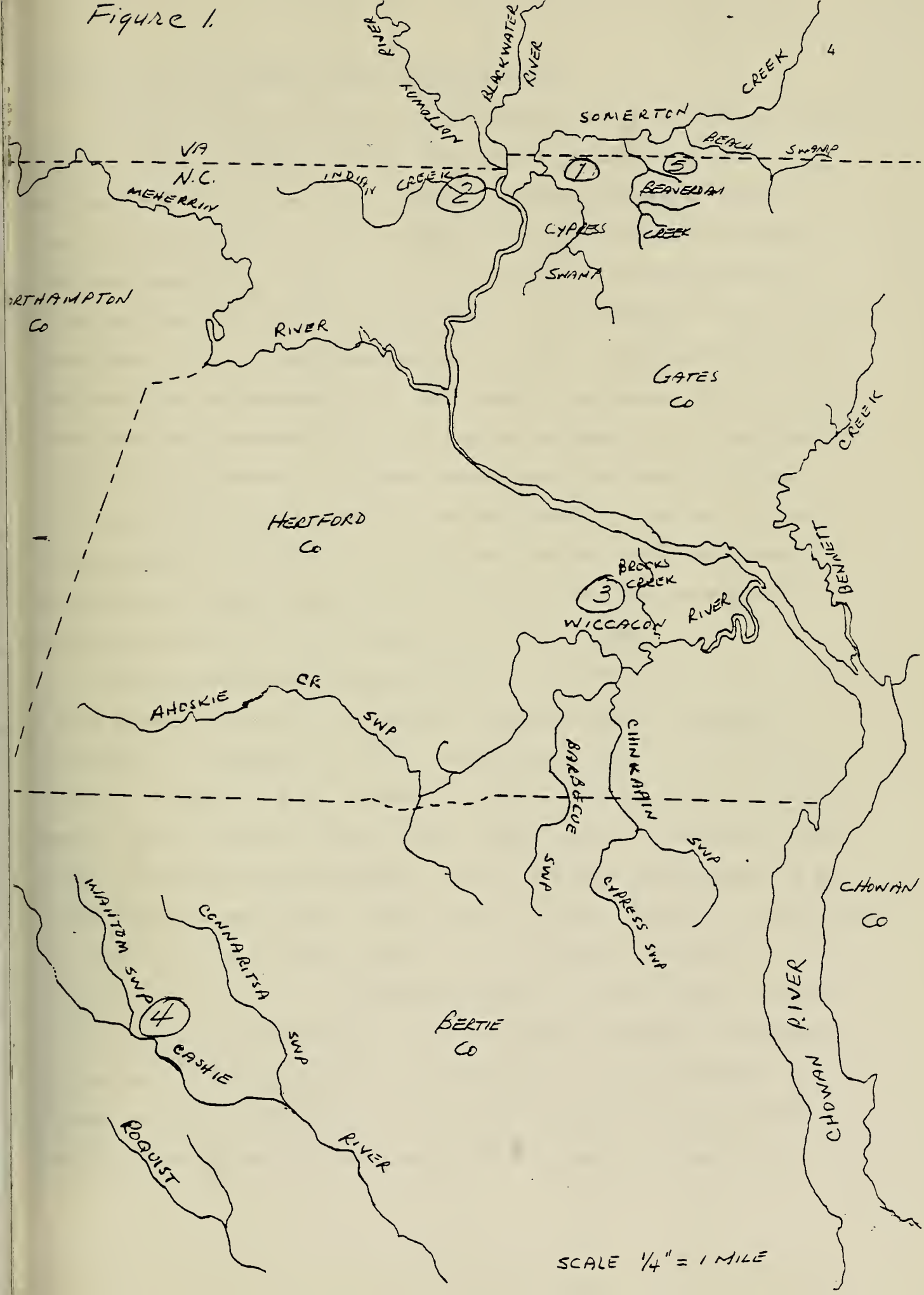
Having disproved this connection the next request was to attempt to find the correct ancestors for HENRY LEE, starting with his father and working back as far as available records would permit. A second request was to determine the ancestors of another HENRY LEE who lived in Gates Co. at the same time as did the HENRY LEE in Bertie Co. This report is the culmination of approximately 150 hours spent searching records available in the North Carolina State Archives. The lineage of the HENRY LEE who lived in Bertie Co. is shown through three previous generations with a high degree of probability of being correct. The HENRY LEE who lived in Gates Co. is shown to probably have these same ancestors, however, the connection is not as good because of missing records.

I

In 1675 JOHN LEE patented 100 acres in the Upper Parish of Nansemond Co. VA adjoining land formerly Michael Hills, but now seated by Francis Sanders; adj. Mr. James Peters and Captain John Mason near the cart path and Isens Mill. The patent does not describe the location of the land in Nansemond Co. The location of land on which John Mason, Michael Hill and Francis Sanders, all neighbors of JOHN LEE, lived is known from other patents. All of these had land on the western branch of Nansemond River before and after 1675. The 100 acres patented by JOHN LEE must have also been on this western branch. This is the branch of Nansemond River which flows westward from present day Suffolk City. A patent to Richard Sanders in 1680 was in Nansemond Co. at the head of Capt. John Mason in the western branch adj. Michael Hill; now said Sanders land. A patent to John Mason in 1661 was for land at the south side of the western branch of Nansemond River beg. at a swamp... Another patent to John Mason in 1664 was at Miles end of his own land and Michael Hill. These patents are sufficient to locate the 100 acres of land patented by JOHN LEE in 1675.

In 1694 JOHN LEE patented 960 acres of land in the Upper Parish of Nansemond Co., VA on the east side of Somerton Creek. The land began at a small island on the side of Somerton Creek and extended to the northeast side of Cypress Swamp. In 1703 WILLIAM KING patented 541 acres in the same area. His patent was on both sides of Kings Branch, a branch of Cypress Swamp. Also in 1703 a patent to Thomas Milner was for land on the north side of Cypress Swamp, a branch of Somerton Creek adjoining JOHN LEE on King's branch, a corner of William King. These three patents are sufficient to pinpoint the location of the patent to JOHN LEE. The area where William King and his descendants lived in the Cypress Swamp area is already known through previous research. The area where JOHN LEE obtained land is shown as (1) in Figure 1. This area is approximately 5-6 miles due south of where JOHN LEE

Figure 1.


NOTTOWAY RIVER
BLACKWATER RIVER
CREEK
SOMERTON
BEAVERDAM SWAMP
VIA N.C.
MEHERRIN
INDIAN CREEK
1
2
5
BEAVERDAM CREEK
CYPRESS SWAMP
RIVER
GATES Co
CREEK
HERTFORD Co
BROCKS CREEK
3
WICCACON RIVER
BENNETT
AHOSKIE CR SWP
BARBECUE SWP
CHINKAPIN SWP
CYPRESS SWP
CHOWAN Co
MIAMITOM SWP
4
CASHIE
CONNARITSA SWP
ROQUIST
RIVER
BERTIE Co
CHOWAN RIVER
SCALE 1/4" = 1 MILE

patented land on the western branch of Nansemond River.

The small island on the east side of Somerton Creek at this location is still shown on current topographic maps published by the U. S. Geological Survey. The map which includes this area is the one of the Riverdale Quadrangle. The creek or swamp which was referred to as Cypress Swamp in the above patents is present on the topographic map but is not named. It is south of Somerton Creek just below the island mentioned and flows into Somerton Creek. It is approximately 1 mile east of Chowan River. It is the only stream on the south side of Somerton Creek between the Chowan River and Beaverdam Creek. This creek is also present on a map of the Chowan River Basin prepared by the North Carolina Department of Water and Resources. On this map it is referred to as Laster-Jordan Branch. The swamp, or stream, is shown but not named on maps of Gates Co. currently available from the North Carolina Department of Transportation. There is no doubt that this stream shown on current maps was known as Cypress Swamp in 1694 and throughout the eighteenth century and that JOHN LEE's patent has been correctly located.

Two other patents were issued to JOHN LEE in the Somerton Creek area. In 1714 he patented 50 acres on the west side of Somerton Creek. The description of this patent would indicate that it was between Somerton Creek and the Chowan River. In 1720 he patented 247 acres near Somerton Creek. The description of these two patents would indicate that they were near the 1694 patent. It could not be determined if they joined the land patented in 1694. JOHN LEE's land is mentioned in several Virginia land patents to others. These are listed in TABLE I. Interestingly, he is also mentioned in a North Carolina patent to Thomas Spites in 1719. The land being patented by Spites also adjoined Paul Pender and Beaverdam Creek. The fact that his land adjoined JOHN LEE would show that JOHN LEE was just on the Virginia side of the line dividing North Carolina and Virginia. When the dividing line was surveyed and moved further north in 1728 the land mentioned in the 1694 patent was mostly in North Carolina. The location of the other two patents were probably at

least partly in Virginia as there appear to be LEE's living on both sides of the line for the remainder of the eighteenth century. It should be mentioned that William King and his descendants lived on the same land adjoining Cypress Swamp and on additional land that they acquired throughout the remainder of the eighteenth century as neighbors of JOHN LEE and his descendants. The proximity of these two families will be of importance when certain connections are later made.

It is not possible to determine if the patents in 1675 and 1694 were to the same JOHN LEE or even if they were to father and son. The pattern of first patenting land along the Nansemond River and then moving further south into the Somerton Creek and North Carolina area has been observed for a large number of early settlers. This could also have been true for JOHN LEE. The association between time, name and location would infer that there was probably a connection. The JOHN LEE who patented land in 1675 could possibly but not likely be the one who patented land in 1720. There appear to be at least two generations of JOHN LEEs.

In 1795, after the area south of Somerton Creek was a part of Gates Co., a deed was issued between Uriah Odom and John Odom to Jethro Sumner of Nansemond Co., VA. One of these two parcels of land was described as being "formerly surveyed for Richard Saunders by patent dated 1 April 1717 which may appear upon records in Virginia joining JOHN LEE the elder, the younger JOHN LEE and Paul Pender." This important bit of information indicates that there were two JOHN LEEs living on adjoining land in 1717 and that they were probably father and son. As the land adjoins Paul Pender it was probably part of the land patented by JOHN LEE in 1694. The location of Paul Pender's house was located precisely by the surveyors of the line between North Carolina and Virginia in 1728 and will be shown later. It was in the area previously shown in Figure 1 for the location of JOHN LEE's patent. By 1717 two generations of JOHN LEEs have been identified. This might or might not include the JOHN LEE who patented land in 1675. The presence of the two JOHN LEEs would lend credence to the probability the JOHN LEE of 1675 is related to those coming later.

later. I know of no way to absolutely resolve the issue except to note at least two and possibly three generations of JOHN LEEs in 1717.

TABLE I

LEE'S IN SOMERTON CREEK AREA OF CHOWAN COUNTY, N.C.

1675/6 24 Feb. Virginia Land Patents. Book 6, page 172.

JOHN LEE patented 100 acres Upper Parish of Nansemond Co., VA, adj. swamp and branch dividing this and land formerly Micah Hill's, now seated by Francis Sanders; adj. Mr. James Peters and Capt. John Mason near the cart path and Ison's Mill. Trans. 2 persons.

1694 20 Apr. VIRGINIA LAND PATENTS. Book 8, page 389.

JOHN LEE patented 960 acres Upper Parish of Nansemond Co. on E. side of Somerton Creek. Beg. on a small island on E. side of said creek - to N. E. side of Cypress Swamp.

(This land is between Cypress Swamp and Beaverdam Swamp on the S. side of Somerton Creek. It was originally entirely within the area governed by Virginia. When the line was redrawn in 1728 most, but not all, of this land was in Chowan Co., NC.)

1703 VIRGINIA LAND PATENTS. Book 9, page 69.

Thomas Milner patented in Upper Parish of Nansemond Co. VA on N. side of Cypress Swamp a branch of Somerton Creek adj. JOHN LEE on King's branch, corner of William King.

1711 28 Apr. VIRGINIA LAND PATENTS. Book 10, page 17.

Elias Ballard patented 585 acres in Upper Parish of Nansemond Co. on N.W. side of Beaverdam Swamp of Somerton Creek adj. Hook's line and William Speight's line. 117 acres on S side of said creek on line of JOHN LEE.

1714 16 Jan. VIRGINIA LAND PATENTS. Book 10, page 128.

JOHN LEE patented 50 acres Upper Parish of Nansemond Co. on W. side of Somerton Creek.

1717 1 Apr. VIRGINIA LAND PATENTS. Book 10, page 1011.

Richard Sanders patented 121 acres Upper Parish of Nansemond Co., VA near the

Cypress Swamp of Sumerton Creek adj. corner of JOHN LEE and Paul Pender's land.

1719/20 1 Mar. NORTH CAROLINA LAND PATENTS. #3019, page 20.

Thomas Spites patented 640 acres Chowan Precinct joining his own corner tree, ye horse pin pocosin, Francis Spites, ye Beaverdam Branch, Paul Pender, Richard Sanders, JOHN LEE and Col. Milner.

(The patents by JOHN LEE originally were just north of the NC-VA line. When the line was adjusted in 1728 it was only moved north about 3-4 miles in this area.

1720 21 Feb. VIRGINIA LAND PATENTS. Book 11, page 54.

JOHN LEE patented 247 acres Upper Parish of Nansemond Co. VA near Sumerton Creek.

1725 15 Aug. CHOWAN CO. DEEDS. Book C, page 525.

WILLIAM LEE witnessed a deed in which John Daverson sold Charles King 221 acres of land near King's branch, Col. Milner's line, R. Laurence line.

1731 CHOWAN CO. DEEDS

John Milner of Nansemond Co, VA to John Sumner of Chowan Prect. - 300 acres granted to Thomas Milner, gentleman, by Pat. bearing date 1703 - due to said John Milner by inheritance. N. side Cypress Swamp, a branch of Somerton Creek beg. at hickory corner of JOHN LEE's land, etc.

1731 17 Sept. VIRGINIA LAND PATENTS. Book 14, page 353.

John Page patented 299 acres Upper Parish of Nansemond Co. S.E. side of Somerton Creek - part of overplus land granted JOHN LEE 20 Apr. 1694, in line of Paul Pinder and in the Co. line.

1736 July. CHOWAN CO. C.P.Q.S. MINUTES

Petition of James Maney, gentleman. The great necessity there is for a road from the cause way over against his ferry to the Virginia line which was formerly a road and the following persons be appointed as a jury to lay out the same - Jos. Ballard, Hooks, Jno. Minshew, JOHN LEE, Charles King, Henry King, Jno. Sumner, Jno. Sanders, Thomas Barnes, Jno. Thomas, Robt.

Thomas, Ephraim Hunter, and that Jos. Ballard be overseer.

1740 List of taxables includes JOHN LEE, GODFREY LEE.

1741 List of taxables includes GODFREY LEE.

1746 List of taxables includes JOHN LEE 2.

1747 List of taxables includes JOHN LEE.

1748 List of taxables includes JOHN LEE.

1749 List of taxables includes JOHN LEE 2.

1750 List of taxables includes JOHN LEE.

1751 List of taxables includes JOHN LEE 2.

1751 Oct. A deed from John Gay to Francis Sanders proved by JOHN LEE.

1752 List of taxables includes JOHN LEE 2. JOHN LEE ON Jury list.

1753 List of taxables includes JOHN LEE 5.

1754 List of taxables includes JOHN LEE 4, JOHN LEE JUNR.

1754 Among those serving in the militia in Capt. Charles King's Company were JOHN LEE, JOHN LEE JUNR, HENRY LEE.

1754 8 Aug. CHOWAN CO. DEEDS. Book G, page 356.

WILLIAM LEE of Bertie Co. to SAMUEL LEE, son and heir of GODFREY LEE of Northampton Co. 20 pounds-100 acres of land in Chowan Co. on the north side of the Cypress Swamp - it being part of a tract of land granted unto JOHN LEE. Signed by: WILL LEE

Wit: Simon Pope, FRAN LEE, ANNE A. LEE.

1754 3 Oct. CHOWAN CO. DEEDS. Book G, page 341.

JOSHUA LEE of Edgecombe Co. to SAMUEL LEE of the Co. of Northampton - 30 pounds - 100 acres in Chowan Co. beginning upon the land that was GODFREY LEE's corner - then to Cypress Swamp and down the swamp to the beginning, being part of a patent formerly granted to JOHN LEE bearing date Apr. 7, 1694. Signed by JOSHUA (X) LEE.

Wit: Simon Pope, ARTHUR LEE, JOSHUA LEE.

1755 Jan. Deeds of sale of land WILLIAM LEE to SAMUEL LEE and JOSHUA LEE to SAMUEL LEE were proved in court by Simon Pope.

1755 CPQS MINUTES. Thomas Riddick vs. JOHN LEE. Concerning an account due.

1756 List of taxables includes JOHN LEE 2 w, 2 b.

1756 5 July CHOWAN CO. DEEDS. Book H, page 149.

JOHN LEE and SAMUEL LEE to John Minshew 160 acres in Chowan Co. for 25 pounds - being part of a tract of land granted by patent to JOHN LEE dated 1694 at Cypress Swamp on eastermost side thereof to a line of marked trees made by and between the said JOHN LEE and John Minshew.

Wit: John Minshew, David Rogers, Thos. Pillian.

1756 Buying at the estate sale of John Sanders dec'd., was SAMUEL LEE.

1757 Oct. CPQS MINUTES. Ordered that the following persons or any 12 or them to wit, Joseph Speight, Charles King, Henry King, John Minshew, JOHN LEE, Charles Sanders, Joseph Rooks, Thomas Rooks, Thomas Barnes, William Speight, William Goodman, Henry Goodman, Jacob Odom, and John Odom be a jury to lay out a road from the Virginia Road to the landing opposite Mr. James Maney's Ferry in Northampton Co.

1758 JOHN LEE summoned to answer to Bill of Indictment.

1759 Dec. Petition to form a new county (Hertford). List of petitioners from western Chowan Co. included.: JOHN LEE, HENRY LEE.

1759 List of taxables includes JOHN LEE, JOHN LEE JUNR.

1792 22 Oct. GATES CO. DEEDS. Book 3, page 51.

William Odom to my loving son, John Odom - for love and affection - the whole of my plantation whereon I now live which I purchased of SAM LEE decd., the land to the new line, likewise my sandbanks land I purchased of Charles Saunders on the river.

1795 GATES CO. DEEDS. Vol. 4, page 52.

Uriah Odom and John Odom to Jethro Sumner of Nansemond Co. VA - 125 pounds- 2 pieces of land containing 209 acres-it being two tracts of land adjoining

one piece being purchased by Richard Saunders of JOHN LEE containing 100 acres by deed dated 18 Nov. 1795 - it doth appear on record in Nansemond Co. VA- the other piece formerly surveyed for Richard Saunders by patent dated 1 April 1717 which may appear upon records in Virginia joining JOHN LEE THE ELDER, THE YOUNGER JOHN LEE AND Paul Pender.

II.

When the dividing line between North Carolina and Virginia was surveyed in 1728 a record of the progress made, distances between various places and the location of the homes of people living near the line was made. This report by the surveyors has been published in Volume II of "The Colonial Records of North Carolina". A copy of this report may be found at the end of this chapter. The information in this report has served to pinpoint the location of roads, bridges, swamps, creeks, etc. as they existed in 1728. The report also shows where several of the early settlers lived. I have taken the information of this report and placed it on a current map of the dividing line between the two states. This undertaking is Figure 2. I have only included that part of the line that is of current interest. By way of explanation the surveyors started at a point designated D^{o} and made measurements of distance from D^{o} at points along the line. Distances measured were in chains (1 chain is 66 feet). Several significant observations can be made- what is today known as Mills Swamp was known as Beach Swamp in 1728. It crosses the dividing line at the same points now as it did then. The survey also served to pinpoint the location of Dukes Mill, of Roads leading from it and crossing the dividing line and the homes of those living near the line. Some of the roads mentioned are still in use today and in approximately the same location. Beaverdam Swamp is located and it is at precisely the same location then as now. The same for Somerton Creek which now crosses the dividing line at the precise point it did in 1728, that is 913 chains from D^{o}. The most significant information from our viewpoint is that it pinpoints precisely the homes in which Paul Pender and RICHARD LEE lived. These are shown on Figure 2 (p. 19) and are on the Virginia side of the line. This is the first indication of a LEE other than JOHN LEE living in this area. The location of RICHARD LEE's home appears to be on land patented by JOHN LEE in

1694. And as described in earlier patents it adjoins Paul Pender. The inference is that RICHARD LEE is a son of JOHN LEE who obtained the original patent.

Continuing further along the line Blackwater River is finally reached. As the line continues west from Blackwater River and Chowan River and shortly after crossing Nottaway River the house of another JOHN LEE is pinpointed. This is only a short distance on the west side of Chowan River and is on the North Carolina side of the dividing line. This could not be the location of the JOHN LEE patent in 1714 which describes the location as being on the west side of Somerton Creek. This location would most certainly be described as being west of Chowan River or south of Nottaway River. These are much larger and more significant bodies of water. One possibility is that this is the location of a North Carolina land patent to JOHN LEE in Bertie Co. in 1723. This could only be possible if the dividing line between the two states was not moved north in this area as it was on the other side of Chowan River. The fact that the dividing line is further south here would tend to bear this out. It is interesting to note that "as a crow flies" that this location and the location of the homesite of RICHARD LEE on the east side of Somerton Creek are only between 2 and 2½ miles apart. It is even closer to other parts of the JOHN LEE patents. And the 1714 patent to JOHN LEE west of Somerton Creek could be in between. The close proximity of these areas would lend credence to the assumption that all the LEE's mentioned are closely related.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT

At 270 chains from the beginning viz. the Burnt Pine and George House bore N. ¼ of a mile.

At 305 chains from D° Pine to Elm Swamp.

At 315 chains from D° Pine Alex' Everards bore North ⅓ of a mile.

At 365 chains from the beginning is the road from Abrh^m Hills to Meads.

At 390 chains from D° burnt pine and they cross'd a Branch of Benets Creek.

At 405 chains from D° pine they came to John Nights Plantation, his house bore North.

At 437 chains from the burnt pine they cross'd a Road from Fornegans Bridge N. 10° E. to Mare Branch S. 10° W.

From the beginning 515 chains and Richard Parkers bore S. ⅓ of a mile. Here the days work ended it being 6 miles and 35 chains.

31. . . .

April 1st From the Place where they began this day to a fork of Beach swamp 110 chains Tho' Oldham's in the Fork bore Northerly distant ¼ of a mile.

From D° to a branch of Beach swamp which makes the Fork 128 chains.

At 203 from D° into Beach swamp which bore of the Line N. & S. Dukes Mill is 4 miles lower down the swamp near to the Place where it enters Somerton Creek.

At 207 chains out of Beach swamp.

At 262 chains and fifty links from D° Abraham Hobb's bore N. ⅛ of a mile.

At 288 chains and 50 links from D° a main road which leads from Sarum to Somerton Chappel cross'd the Line N. & S. The road afterwards winds S. S. W. Somerton Chappel bore N. a mile and an half and stands upon the east side of the road.

At 325 chains from D° and John Cross bore N. 6 chains.

At 345 chains from D° into Beach swamp. the course of the swamp is N. W. to Dukes Mill. which stands upon the east side of the swamp.

From D° 352 chains and 50 links to the west side of Beach swamp.

At 400 chains into Beach swamp again. From the last place taken notice of to this the swamp runs Parallel to the Line.

From D° 410 chains out of Beach swamp again.

At 424 chains into a branch of Beach swamp.

At 519 chains from D° and John Purvis bore northerly ¼ of a mile, and Dukes mill N. W. ½ mile.

At 535 chains from D° Willm Spites bore N. ¼ of a mile.

At 550 chains from D° and the road from Dukes mill to Barnes's at the Line at right angles.

At 572 chains from D° and the Line cross'd the road from Dukes Mill to Barnes's at N. E. & S. W.

At 580 chains from D° and Will™ Spites senior bore N. W. 5 chains.

At 609 chains from D° the Line cut the road from Dukes Mill to Barns's landing.

At 660 chains from D° to Beaver Dam swamp a branch of Somerton Creek.

At 675 chains from D° to the west side of Beaver Dam swamp about N. 60 W. ½ of a mile the swamp enters Somerton Creek and midway there is a bridge.

At 680 chains from D° the road from Dukes Mill to Barns's landing crossed the line at right angles.

At 809 chains Paul Pindars bore north 6 chains the Creek was 200 yards beyond the House.

At 870 chains from D° Richard Lee's bore north ¼ of a Mile.

At 913 chains or 11 miles and 33 chains to the east side of Somerton Creek where the days work ended.

2d From a station on the west side of Somerton Creek to a mark where the line intersected the east side of D° Creek N. 10° E. Then N. 50° 30′ W. 11 chains and 30 links to the Line Tree on the west side of the creek.

These courses were taken to find the breadth of the creek.

From the station on the west side of the Creek from whence the two foregoing courses were taken the course of the Creek upwards is N. 48° W. and downwards it is S. 71° W. $\frac{3}{16}$ of a mile. And from the Line Tree on the west side of the Creek its course upwards is N. for 10 chains.

From the line Tree on the west side of Somerton Creek they continued the line 72 chains and 30 links to Black water river From the west side of the Dismal to Black water river it is 20 miles 30 chains and 70 links.

Then they came down the river to the mouth of Nottoway, and having set up a stake on the east side of the River Nottoway they proceeded to find the breadth of the river and to join the stake with the point where the Line intersected Blackwater and thereby find how far they had come down the said river on a meridian Line, in order to comply with the directions in the agreement between the Colonies for settling the bounds. From the stake on the East side of the mouth of Nottoway river to a cypress on the west side of the North Point of the said river's mouth N. 87° W. Then N. 2 E. 12 chains and the cypress bore S. 59 W. thence

N. 48° 30′ E. 7 chains and 50
Thence N. 15° 30′ E. 8 chains a
line intersected the east side of B
between the Pissimon and the trai
toway is 45 chains and 11 links.
Then they crossed over to the
breadth they run S. 17° 30′ E.
30′ E. then S. 66° E. 700 links
From the west side of Nottow
chains from D° west side to the l
chains.

In this place the variation of
3d At 45 chains from the beg
S. ½ a mile.
At 65 chains from D° the bee
At 142 chains and 50 links f
of the line, it leads from James
from the line, to John Cheshire
from the Line. James William
way river mouth.
At 150 chains from D° Vale
At 150 chains from D° is a
At 240 chains from D° John
At 265 chains from D° Rich
At 542 chains from D° is a
Nottoway to John Cheshires o
At 540 chains from D° is a l
making out of Meherrin river
At 685 chains from D° Joh
At 845 chains from D° Ed
At 935 chains from D° Ge
At D° from D° Tho. Boon
At 970 chains from D° Jar
At 1022 chains and 50 lin.
to a Beach and Holly on Ma
4th To find the breadth of
chains and 40 links then thei
S. 53° 30′ west.
The breadth of the river
links, its course is N. E. &

N. 45° 30′ E. 7 chains and 50 links thence N. 3° 30′ W. 20 chains Thence N. 15° 30′ E. 8 chains and 50 links to the Pissimmon where the line intersected the east side of Black water. The difference of Latitude between the Pissimon and the stake on the east side of the mouth of Nottoway is 45 chains and 11 links.

Then they crossed over to the west side of Nottoway and to find its breadth they run S. 17° 30′ E. 600 links And the Cypress bore N. 76° 30′ E. then S. 66° E. 700 links And the Cypress bore N. 55° 30′ E.

From the west side of Nottoway 13 chains thro' a Pockosson and at 40 chains from Dᵉ west side to the high Lands being an Indian old Field 40 chains.

In this place the variation of the needle was found to be 2° 30′ west.

3° At 45 chains from the beginning place of this day John Lees bore S. ¼ a mile.

At 65 chains from Dᵉ the head of Indian town Creek bore S. E.

At 142 chains and 50 links from Dᵉ is a main road bearing N. 20° E. of the line, it leads from James Williams's on Nottoway river three miles from the line, to John Cheshires on the north side of Meherrin 7 miles from the Line. James Williams's is two miles and an half from Nottoway river mouth.

At 150 chains from Dᵉ Valentine Brasswel bore N. 100 yᵈˢ

At 150 chains from Dᵉ is a small branch of Indian Town Creek.

At 240 chains from Dᵉ John Williams' bore S. ¼ of a mile.

At 265 chains from Dᵉ Richard Williams bore N. ½ a mile.

At 542 chains from Dᵉ is a road from Dʳ Browns on the south side of Nottoway to John Cheshires on the North side of Meherrin.

At 640 chains from Dᵉ is a branch supposed to be Horse Pasture Creek making out of Meherrin river.

At 685 chains from Dᵉ John Barrets bore N. ¼ of a mile.

At 845 chains from Dᵉ Edward Chitty's bore south on the line.

At 935 chains from Dᵉ George Jackson bore N. ¼ of a mile.

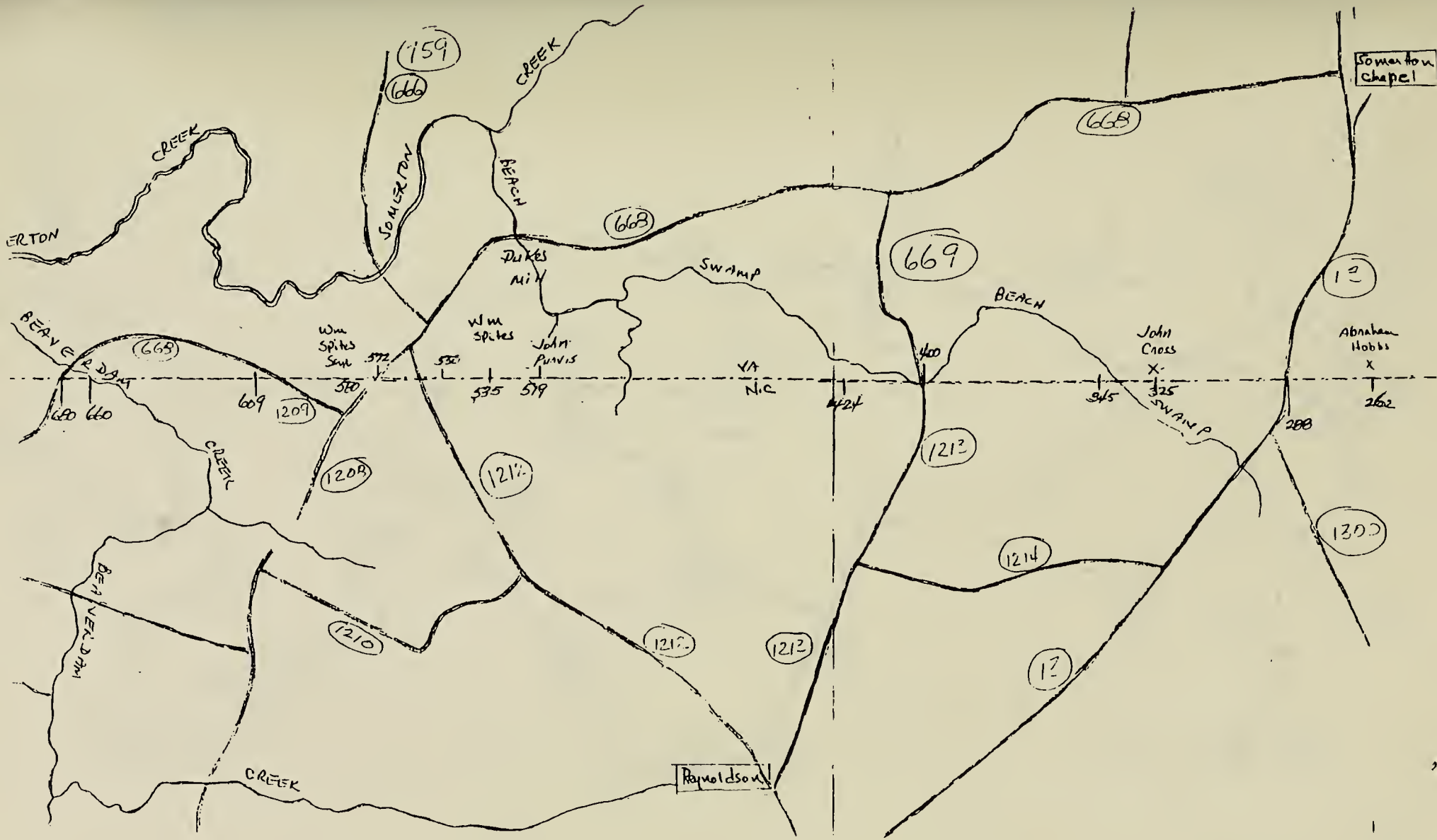
At Dᵉ from Dᵉ Tho. Boon S. ¼ of a mile.

At 970 chains from Dʳ James Monehams bore south 5 chains.

At 1022 chains and 50 links which is 12 miles 62 chains and 50 links to a Beach and Holly on Maherrin River

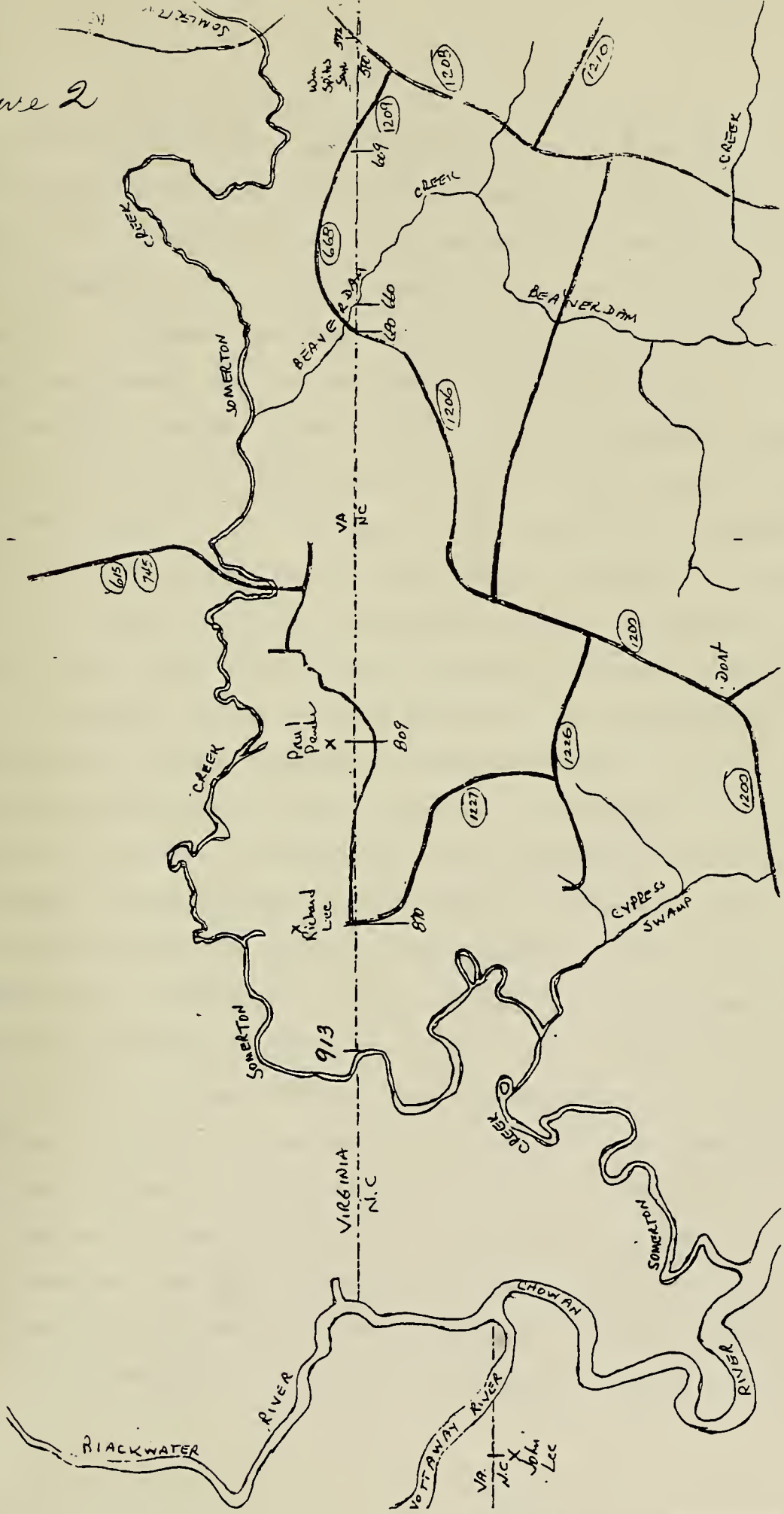
4ᵗʰ To find the breadth of Meherrin River they run N. 47° 30′ W. 2 chains and 40 links then their station on the west side of Meherrin bore S. 59° 30′ west.

The breadth of the river is from hence found to be 3 chains and 70 links, its course is N. E. & S. W.



Somerton chapel
Reynoldson
CREEK
SOMERTON
BEACH
SWAMP
BEAVERDAM
Dukes Mill
Wm Spites
John Purvis
John Cross
Abraham Hobbs
VA
N.C.
759
666
668
669
1209
1208
1210
1212
1213
1214
680
660
609
572
580
550
535
519
424
400
345
325
288
262

Figure 2


SOMERTON
CREEK
BEAVERDAM
CREEK
BEAVERDAM
CREEK
1208
1209
1210
668
660
680
1206
VA
NC
615
745
1200
Dort
Paul Pender
809
1226
1227
1200
CREEK
Richard Lee
870
CYPRESS
SWAMP
SOMERTON
913
CREEK
VIRGINIA
N.C
SOMERTON
CHOWAN
RIVER
RIVER
BLACKWATER
VOTTAWAY RIVER
VA.
N.C
John Lee

III.

As previously mentioned the area south of Somerton Creek and east of Cypress Swamp where JOHN LEE the elder and the younger JOHN LEE lived was a part of Virginia until 1728. Even after 1728 a part of the land upon which the LEE's lived was still in Nansemond Co., VA. The only records available for this period are the land patents. There could have been other land transactions between individuals but these early records have been destroyed. After 1728 the area in North Carolina in which the LEEs lived was in Chowan County. This area remained in Chowan Co. until 1760 at which time it became a part of Hertford Co. No records are available for Hertford Co. prior to the Civil War. In 1779 Hertford Co. was further divided and that part of Hertford Co. east of Chowan River became a part of Gates Co. The records for Gates Co. are relatively complete. There is an interval of about 20 years between 1759 and 1779 in which no records of the Somerton Creek area exist.

The Chowan Co. records which are available in the North Carolina State Archives have been searched thoroughly for the period from 1728 to 1760. These records indicate that JOHN LEE lived continuously in the area up until the time Hertford Co. was formed. He was even one of those petitioning for the formation of a new county. The information covering Chowan Co. is found in TABLE I. Not only is a JOHN LEE living in the area continuously, but from 1754 to 1759 there is a JOHN LEE and a JOHN LEE JUNR. As will be shown later there appears to be at least three generations of JOHN LEEs by 1754. In 1736 JOHN LEE was on a jury to lay out a road from the Virginia line to Maney's Ferry on the Chowan River. This road most likely went across land on which JOHN LEE lived. JOHN LEE is on the tax lists of Chowan Co. continuously from 1740 to 1759 when Hertford Co. was formed. The tax lists are not complete for each year and some years do not give the number of taxables. And again in some years the white polls and black polls are grouped together. As an example, he has 2 taxables in 1752 and 5 taxables in 1753. Then in 1756 the list shows 2 white and 2 black taxables. Because these are grouped

in some years it cannot be determined how many white taxables are included in the 1753 listing. In addition to these listings JOHN LEE proved a deed in 1751, was on the jury in 1752, was involved in a court case with Thomas Riddick in 1755, and was again on a jury laying out a road in the same area as before in 1757. He was summoned to answer a bill of indictment in 1758.

There are a few references in the Chowan Co. records for LEE's other than JOHN LEE. In 1725 WILLIAM LEE witnessed a deed in which Charles King bought land from John Daverson. This land was on King's branch of Cypress Swamp joining Col. Milner and was thus in the same area where JOHN LEE lived. WILLIAM LEE appears to be a son of JOHN LEE. GODFREY LEE appears on tax lists of Chowan Co. in 1740 and 1741, but not thereafter. Other records will show that he is also a son of JOHN LEE.

In 1754 two land transactions occured in Chowan Co. relating to the 1694 land granted JOHN LEE. In one transaction WILLIAM LEE of Bertie Co. sold SAMUEL LEE, son and heir of GODFREY LEE of Northampton Co. 100 acres of land in Chowan Co. on the north side of Cypress Swamp-it being part of a tract of land granted to JOHN LEE. In the second transaction JOSHUA LEE of Edgecombe Co. sold SAMUEL LEE of Northampton Co. 100 acres in Chowan Co. beginning upon the land that was GODFREY LEE's corner, then to Cypress Swamp and down the swamp to the beginning being part of a patent formerly granted to JOHN LEE bearing date April 7, 1694.

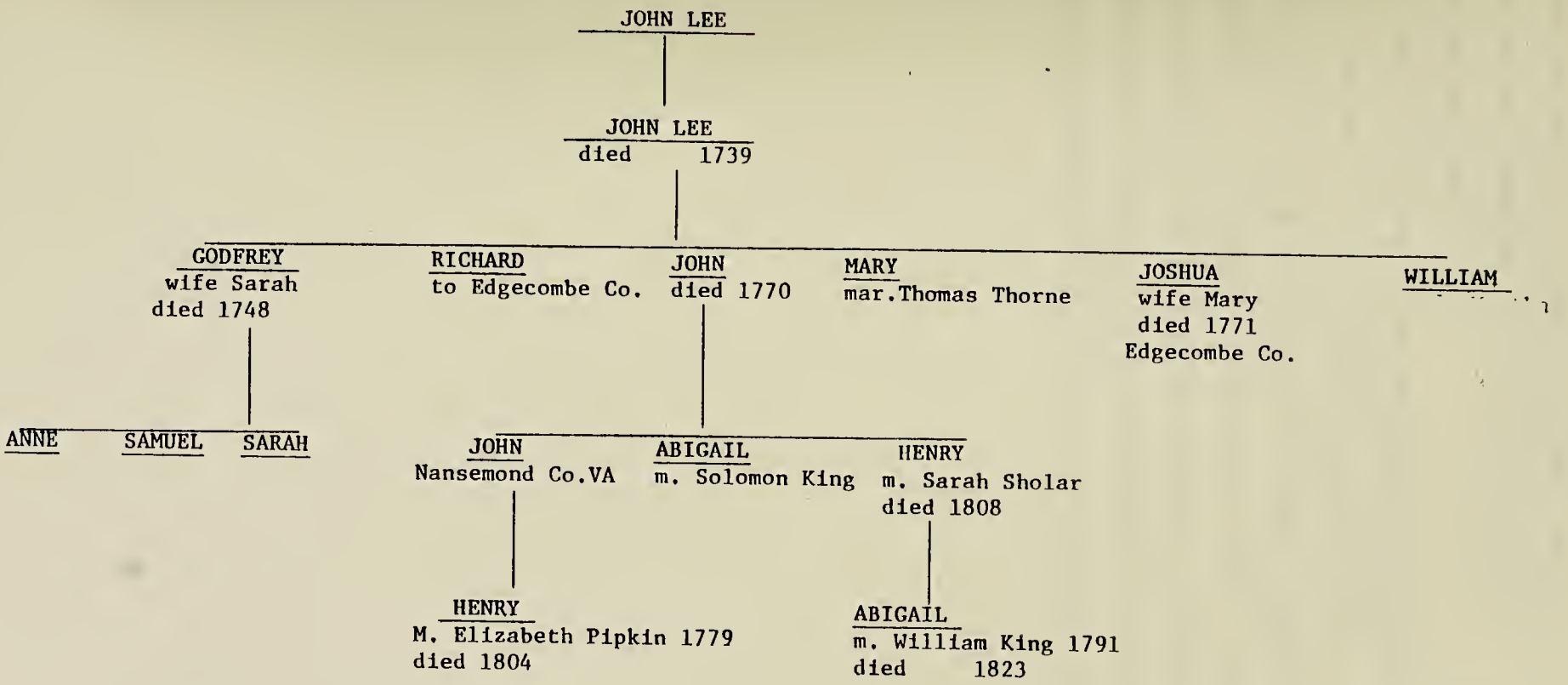
In 1756 SAMUEL LEE appears to sell at least part of the land he purchased two years earlier. In 1756 JOHN LEE and SAMUEL LEE sold to John Minshew 160 acres in Chowan Co. - being part of a tract of land granted by patent to JOHN LEE dated 1694 at Cypress Swamp on eastermost side to a line of marked trees between the said JOHN LEE and John Minshew.

The above deeds establish that GODFREY LEE, JOSHUA LEE and WILLIAM LEE are descendants, most likely sons, of JOHN LEE who patented land on the east side of Cypress Swamp in 1694. The presence of RICHARD LEE on the land in the 1728

survey and the continuous presence of a JOHN LEE would indicate that they are also sons. Indications are that JOHN LEE who patented land in 1694 had five sons who inherited the land. The probable lineage is shown in Figure 3 along with other connections that will be later disclosed.

Also, beginning in 1754, there is a JOHN LEE and a JOHN LEE JUNIOR present. JOHN LEE LUNIOR is listed as a taxable as early as 1754. In 1754, JOHN LEE, JOHN LEE JUNIOR and HENRY LEE are members of the militia company of Capt. Charles King. The area served by this company is the same area south of Somerton Creek on which the LEE's lived. Capt. Charles King is in fact a neighbor, the son of William King who patented land on Cypress Swamp in 1703. JOHN LEE JUNIOR and HENRY LEE appear to be sons of JOHN LEE and JOHN LEE JUNIOR is probably the older of the two sons as he appears as a taxable and HENRY LEE does not. In fact HENRY LEE appears only one more time in the records of Chowan Co. In 1759 he and JOHN LEE were listed with those who petitioned the governor of North Carolina for a new county to be formed which would include the western part of Chowan Co. Although appearing only twice in the records it can conclusively be shown that HENRY LEE who signed the petition and who was surely the one in the militia is the HENRY LEE who later lived in Bertie Co., married Sarah Shoalar, and became the father of ABIGAIL LEE who married William King in 1791. The original documents pertaining to the petition for forming a new county are to be found in the North Carolina State Archives. These have been examined and the signature of HENRY LEE compared with the signatures of HENRY LEE of Bertie Co. These were as bondsman on the marriage license of William King and ABIGAIL LEE and on the will of HENRY LEE in Guilford Co. in 1803. The signatures are identical. Signatures were also obtained of the HENRY LEE who lived in Gates Co. in the later part of the eighteenth century. These were not the same signatures as those on the 1759 petition. When HENRY LEE first bought land in Bertie Co. in 1763 the deed states that he was from Hertford Co. The area where the LEE's lived on Cypress Swamp and south of Somerton Creek was a part of

FIGURE 3

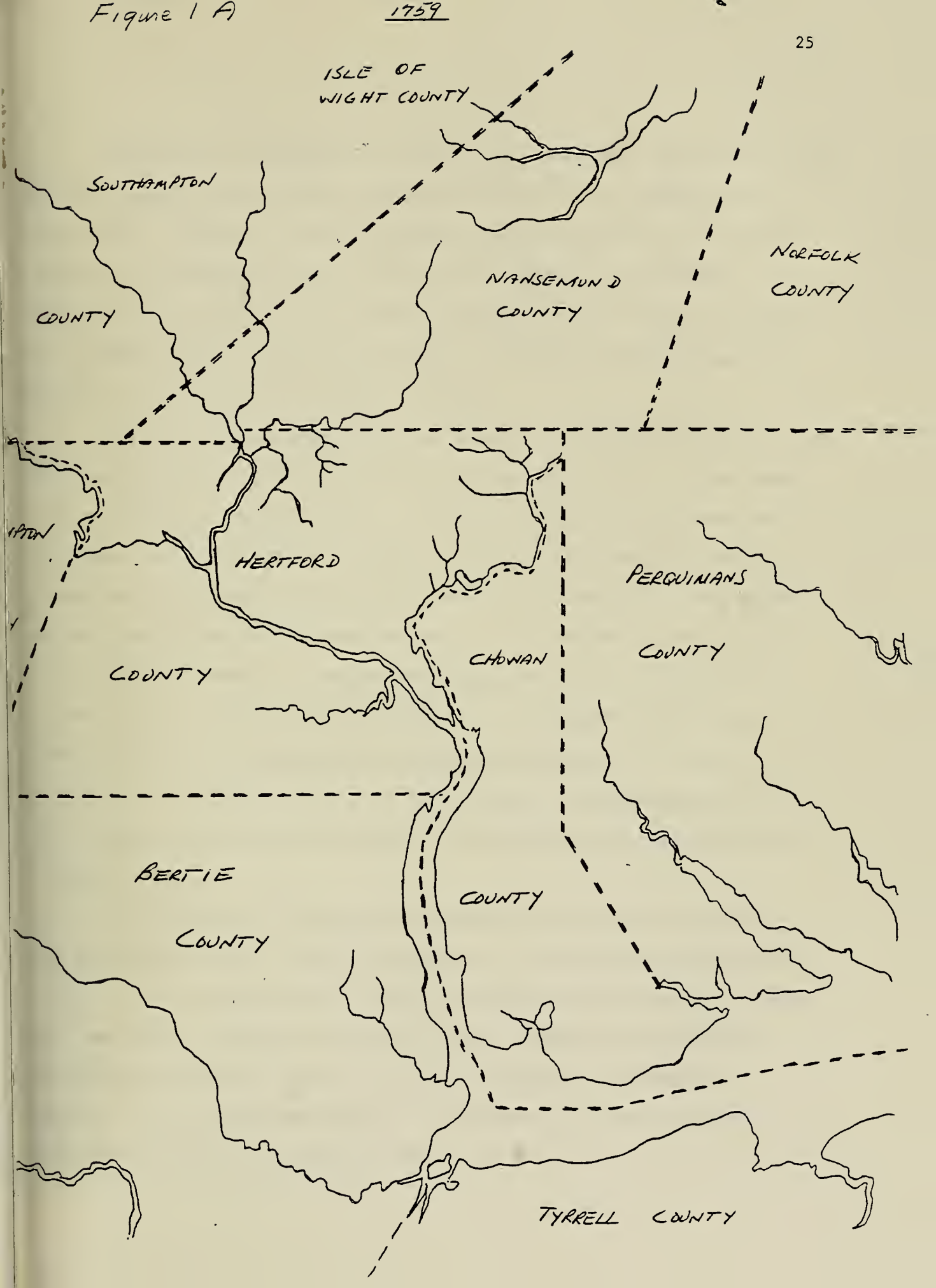

JOHN LEE
JOHN LEE
died 1739
GODFREY
wife Sarah
died 1748
RICHARD
to Edgecombe Co.
JOHN
died 1770
MARY
mar.Thomas Thorne
JOSHUA
wife Mary
died 1771
Edgecombe Co.
WILLIAM
ANNE
SAMUEL
SARAH
JOHN
Nansemond Co.VA
ABIGAIL
m. Solomon King
HENRY
m. Sarah Sholar
died 1808
HENRY
M. Elizabeth Pipkin 1779
died 1804
ABIGAIL
m. William King 1791
died 1823

Hertford Co. in 1763. The evidence appears conclusive that HENRY LEE of Bertie Co. is the son of JOHN LEE of Chowan, later Hertford Co. This will be more thoroughly explored later.

One other record of land transactions involving the LEE's is found in the Gates Co. records. In 1792 William Odom gave his son, John Odom, the plantation on which he lived that he purchased of SAM LEE. If you remember SAMUEL LEE purchased two parcels of land from two of his uncles in 1754. He sold part of this in 1756. This deed could refer to sale of the remainder of the land. Except for the land purchases and sales SAMUEL LEE does not appear in the records of Chowan Co.except during the two year period 1754-1756. No tax list for 1755 was available.

Figure 1 A

1759



IV

Descendants of JOHN LEE lived in two other areas not too far distant from where he patented land in 1694. Both of these areas were on the west side of Chowan River. They were in areas that became a part of Hertford Co. in 1760. A study of the records available for these areas enables us to establish the connections of the LEEs in these areas to JOHN LEE. Also it must be remembered that the HENRY LEE for whom we are attempting to find his ancestors came from Hertford Co. in 1763 and bought land in Bertie Co.

The first area of interest is just west of the Chowan River and almost directly west of where JOHN LEE lived on the east side of Cypress Swamp, on the south side of Somerton Creek. The area in question is on Indian Creek which flows into Chowan River and is just south of the dividing line between Virginia and North Carolina. The area is only a few miles distant from Cypress Swamp and could almost be considered an extension of this area except that it is in a different county. On current topographic maps this area is referred to as Maney's Neck, probably because James Maney who operated the ferry on Chowan River was also a merchant with extensive land holdings in the area. The present day site where the ferry crossed is known as Riddicksville. The area on Indian Creek is near the Virginia line and has previously been located on Figure 1 by (2).

A large number of settlers from Chowan Co. in the area of Cypress Swamp and Somerton Creek obtained land patents on the west side of Chowan River in 1723. It is not known why this influx of settlers occured at this particular time. Among those obtaining patents in 1723 were GODFREY LEE and JOHN LEE. These were North Carolina patents, not Virginia patents even though they were close to the present dividing line. The inference is that the dividing line was the same in 1728 as it was before the survey.

A number of patents and land transactions have been located for this area which was a part of Bertie Co. until 1741 and then a part of Northampton Co. until 1760. After 1760 it was a part of Hertford Co. for which no records are available. These land transactions have been listed in TABLE II. These transactions mention the north side of Indian Creek and the Virginia line. It is very likely that the JOHN LEE mentioned in the surveyors report is the same JOHN LEE who obtained a patent on Indian Creek in 1723. The surveyors report serves to further pinpoint the location of the patent. It has already been mentioned that the home of JOHN LEE here is only about 2 miles from the home of RICHARD LEE on the east side of the river.

GODFREY LEE appears to be in the area continuously. He sold 270 acres of land to RICHARD LEE, presumabley his brother, in a deed witnessed by JOHN LEE. This was in 1734. RICHARD LEE sold this same 270 acres in 1739 and appears to have moved to Edgecombe Co. as a RICHARD LEE appears in Edgecombe Co. about this time.

Also in 1739 JOSHUA LEE and wife MARY sold land in Bertie Co. on Indian Creek and they too appear to move to Edgecombe Co. RICHARD LEE and JOSHUA LEE appear to be brothers who moved in the same year to the same location. The land sold by JOSHUA LEE is described as being part of a patent granted JOHN LEE in his last will and testament to JOSHUA LEE his son. This establishes that JOHN LEE was dead by 1739. He is selling land he patented in 1723. It has already been mentioned that in 1754 JOSHUA LEE of Edgecombe Co. sold land in Chowan Co. that was part of the land patented by JOHN LEE in 1694. Because JOSHUA LEE sold land on Indian Creek that he inherited from JOHN LEE and land on Cypress Swamp in Chowan Co. that was granted to JOHN LEE in 1694, the inference is that this is the same JOHN LEE in each case. It also tends to establish that the JOHN LEE who was dead by 1739 was the one who obtained the 1694 patent. This being the case he could almost surely not be the JOHN LEE who patented land

in 1675 as he would be extremely old by 1739. If there is a connection between the JOHN LEE patentees of 1675 and 1694 they would have to be of two generations, that is father and son.

From the Northampton Co. deeds relating to the area we learn that JOHN LEE had a daughter, MARY LEE, who married Thomas Thorn. We also learn that GODFREY LEE's wife was SARAH LEE and that GODFREY LEE was dead by 1749. His children were SARAH LEE, SAMUEL LEE, and ANNE LEE. This is the same SAMUEL LEE who bought land from other LEE's in Chowan Co. in 1754. GODFREY LEE's wife SARAH married Joseph Scott after his death.

These records along with information already presented from Chowan Co. records is sufficient to identify GODFREY, RICHARD, JOSHUA, MARY, and JOHN as children of JOHN LEE who patented land in 1694. WILLIAM LEE has also made brief appearances and is most likely another son. He lives in another area and will be more fully discussed later.

There are other LEEs mentioned in the records of Northampton Co. for the period from 1747 to 1757. None of these appear to be in the Indian Creek area. A JOHN LEE from Surry Co. purchased land on the north side and joining Meherrin River. This would be several miles from the Indian Creek area, but would have been a part of Northampton Co. that became Hertford Co. Also a HENRY LEE from Surry Co. bought land in Northampton Co. in 1747 and sold it in 1751. This land was in the western part of Northampton Co. in an area that did not become a part of Hertford Co. As the HENRY LEE and JOHN LEE just mentioned were both from Surry Co. they could be related. And because of the similarity of names they could also be related to the LEEs which are the subject of this research. Any connection has not been definitely established.

TABLE II

LEES IN MANEY'S NECK AREA OF NORTH CAROLINA

This area is on the west side of Chowan River and north side of Meherrin River and bounded on the north by the Virginia line. It is actually only a few miles from where the LEE's lived on Somerton Creek. The area has been part of four counties as follows:

1. Chowan Co. up to 1722. The Chowan records contain practically nothing on this area. It could have been considered a part of Virginia.
2. Bertie Co. 1722 - 1741. Patents, land transactions and CPQS minutes are about all the Bertie Records available for this area.
3. Northampton Co. 1741 - 1759. Only land transactions available.
4. Hertford Co. 1759 - to present. Nothing available before 1865.

The following patents and land transactions have been abstracted:

1. 1723 26 March. NC LAND PATENTS-ABSTRACTS. #2041, page 127.
GODFREY LEE patented 540 acres on west side of Chowan River on the south side of Indian Creek joining Richard Holland and the said creek. (lapsed in Edward Barnes name 1 Aug. 1727)

2. 1723 26 March NC LAND PATENTS-ABSTRACTS. #2042, page 128.
GODFREY LEE patented 345 acres on west side of Chowan River joining Chowan River pocosin and a spring on the west side of Miery Marsh.

3. 1723 26 March NC LAND PATENTS-ABSTRACTS. #2047, page 129.
Joseph Ballard and John Gay patented 365 acres on the west side of Chowan River on a branch that runs into the Miery Meadow joining Richard Holland, GODFREY LEE and the Great Branch.
(Lapsed in name of James Manny and Jos. Ballard Jr. 1726.)

4 1723 26 March NC LAND PATENTS-ABSTRACTS. #2055, page 131.

Richard Holland and Edward Barnes patented 460 acres on west side of Chowan River on the west side of the Miery Meadow joining Joseph Ballard, John Gay, John Davison, GODFREY LEE, and the meadow by a spring and a beginning branch.

5. 1723 26 March. NC LAND PATENTS-ABSTRACTS. #2044, page 128.
JOHN LEE patented 600 acres on west side of Chowan River on the north side of the Indian Creek joining John Hooks, the Creek swamp and the Virginia line.

6. 1723 7 Nov. NC LAND PATENTS-ABSTRACTS. #2264, page 182.
GODFREY LEE patented 480 acres in Bertie Prect. on the west side of Chowan River joining the river pocosin, GODFREY LEE, and the Fort Branch. (Lapsed to Samuel Powers 2 Nov. 1727.)

7. 1726 Aug. 9 BERTIE PRECT. DEEDS. Book B, page 163.
John Hooks Junr. and wife Martha of Nansemond Co. VA to Francis Corbett of Isle of Wight, VA. 7 pounds - 145 acres on north side Meherrin River and west side Chowan River granted to Hooks Nov. 7, 1723 adj. Indian Creek Swamp, GODFREY LEE, Edward Barnes.
Wit: Edward Barnes, John Gardner, Jonathan Sanderson.

8. 1728 May 7 BERTIE COUNTY DEEDS - ABSTRACTS. Book B, page 400.
Edward Barnes to GODFREY LEE - 40 pounds - 550 acres on west side Chowan River and south side Indian Creek adj. Richard Holland. The whole patent of 550 acres granted said Barnes by relapse dated Oct. 1726.
Wit: James Holland, Thomas Bird, Robert Lanier.

9. 1728 25 May. NC LAND PATENTS-ABSTRACTS. #2519, page 241.
William Little, esq. patented 240 acres joining Edward Powers, Mulberry Upper Old Field, Fort Branch, GODFREY LEE, John Gardner, Robt. Forster.

10. 1733 Sept. 1 BERTIE CO. DEEDS-ABSTRACTS. Book D, page 22.
James Sumner of Chowan Precinct to John Drew and John Elyson of Chowan

15 pounds - 200 acres in a valley nigh the head of Great Branch on the land whereon David Jarnegan now lives called Indian Town land on Chowan River adj. Richard Holland now in possession of James Maney. Wit: SARAH LEE, Sarah Drewry, Frazier Lewis.

11. 1734 BERTIE CO. DEEDS-ABSTRACTS. Book D, page 188.
GODFREY LEE to RICHARD LEE - 15 pounds - 270 acres south side Indian Creek adj. Richard Holland, now in possession of David Jarnekan on GODFREY's Great Branch.
Wit: Henry Gay, William Gay, John Ellison, JOHN LEE.

12. 1734 Feb. 4 BERTIE CO. DEEDS-ABSTRACTS. Book D, page 146.
Samuel Powers to GODFREY LEE - 30 pounds - 480 acres on north side Maherrin by pat. as appears in the Secry. office commonly called "Mulberry Old Field". Wit: Joud, Samuel Ellison.

13. 1737 May 9 BERTIE CO. DEEDS-ABSTRACTS. Book E, page 123.
Samuel Powers to GODFREY LEE - 30 pounds - 480 acres land commonly called "Mulberry Old Fields"on north side Chowan River adj. GODFREY LEE, Col. William Little, on Fort Branch, bounded by the patent.
Wit: J. Edwards, John Dawson, Thomas Bryant

14. 1739 Aug 22 BERTIE CO. DEEDS-ABSTRACTS. Book E, page 522.
JOSHUA LEE and wife MARY to William Battle of Chowan Co. - 40 pounds - 150 acres on north side Indian Creek Swamp to the former VA line at Watering Branch adj. Thomas Thorn. Part of patent granted JOHN LEE in his last will and testament to JOSHUA LEE his son.
Wit: Henry Gray, Elisha Williams, James Gray.

15. 1739 Sept. 29 BERTIE CO. DEEDS-ABSTRACTS. Book F, page 48.
RICHARD LEE to John Butler - 40 pounds - 270 acres on south side Indian Creek adj. Richard Holland, now in possession David Jarnegan, adj. GODFREY LEE at a Great Branch commonly called GODFREY LEE's Great Branch

to the main run of Indian Creek. Wit: James Maney, Henry Gay.

16. 1739 Nov. 12 BERTIE CO. DEEDS-ABSTRACTS. Book E, page 521.
GODFREY LEE and wife SARAH to Thomas Thorne - 15 pounds - 270 acres on west side Chowan River at Indian Creek adj. GODFREY LEE and RICHARD LEE, land granted to Edward Barnes by relapse bearing date Oct. 1726. Wit: James Maney, Henry Gray Junr.

17. 1740 Jan. 3 BERTIE CO. DEEDS-ABSTRACTS. Book F, page 212.
John Butler to James Maney - 35 pounds - 270 acres on south side Indian Creek adj. Richard Holland, now in possession of David Jarnigan on GODFREY LEE's Great Branch - part of a tract granted GODFREY LEE.
Wit: David Jarnegan, Abraham Page.

18. 1741 23 May. NORTHAMPTON CO. DEEDS - ABSTRACTS. Book 1, page 32.
Thomas Thorn and Mary Thorn his wife of Northampton Co. to William Battle of Northampton Co. 12 pounds, 10 shillings, 100 acres - part of patent to JOHN LEE, deceased, 1 April 1723 and given by his last will and testament to his daughter MARY LEE now the wife of Thomas Thorn on the north side of Indian Creek joining Henry Gay, other lands of William Battle and the creek.
Wit: Robert Sherman, WILLIAM LEE, David Jarnegan Senr.

19. 1748/9 14 Jan. NORTHAMPTON CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book 1, page 360.
John Thorne to Thomas Thorne - 15 pounds - 145 acres on the water side of Chowan River and the south side of Indian Creek Swamp joining GODFREY LEE, Edward Barnes and the swamp as by patent to John Hook, Junr. 7 Nov.1723.
Wit: James Maney, Robert Gilliam, Daniel William.

20. 1749 9 May NORTHAMPTON CO. DEEDS ABSTRACTS. Book 1, page 377.
Joseph Scott and Sarah Scott (Co. not identified) to Anne Williams, SARAH LEE AND SAMUEL LEE (Co. not identified) for the good will and affection we bear to our three children, to my daughter, ANNE, to my

daughter, SARAH LEE, to my son, SAMUEL LEE, etc.

Wit: James Maney, Nicholas Maget, Jane Maget.

21. 1753 13 Feb. NORTHAMPTON CO. DEEDS ABSTRACTS. Book 1, page 96.

Nathaniel Field of Northampton Co. to JOHN LEE of Surry Co. VA -55 pounds - 170 acres on north side of Maherin River joining Robert Tharp, William Davidson, other lands of Nathaniel Fields and the River.

Wit: John Fleming, Thomas Grantham.

22. 1757 28 Jan. NORTHAMPTON CO. DEEDS ABSTRACTS. Book 2, page 362.

John Lawrence of Northampton Co. to Nathaniel Cary of Nansemond Co. VA- 3 pounds - 4 acres joining William Glover, William Battle, WILLIAM LEE, other lands of the said Lawrence and the said Cary and ye line between NC and Virginia, part of a patent to Thomas Page for 140 acres 11 Mar. 1740.

Wit: James Maney, SAMUEL LEE, James Cary Jr.

23. 1757 28 Feb. NORTHAMPTON CO. DEEDS ABSTRACTS. Book 2, page 372.

Charles Skinner of Northampton Co., planter, to Michael Barnes of Northampton Co. - 3 pds., 15 sh. - 120 acres on the north side of Chowan River joining SAMUEL LEE, a branch and the other lands of the said Skinner and the said Barnes as by patent to said Skinner 10 Oct. 1754.

Wit: James Maney, William Behner, Elizabeth Peeletrees.

24. 1757 24 Feb. NORTHAMPTON CO. DEEDS ABSTRACTS. Book 2, page 63.

William Mossom of Northampton Co. to JOHN LEE of Northampton Co. - 20 pounds - 50 acres - north side of Maherin River joining Willow Branch, other lands of said LEE and the River.

Wit: Henry Hill, William Murtree.

25. 1757 24 Feb. NORTHAMPTON CO. DEEDS ABSTRACTS. Book 2, page 363.

JOHN LEE of Northampton Co. to William Mossom of Northampton Co. - 20 pds. - 50 acres on north side of Maherin River joining William Davis, other lands of said Mossom and the Ready Branch. Wit: Henry Stevens, William Murfree.

26. 1758 28 Feb. NORTHAMPTON CO. DEEDS ABSTRACTS. Book 2, page 464.

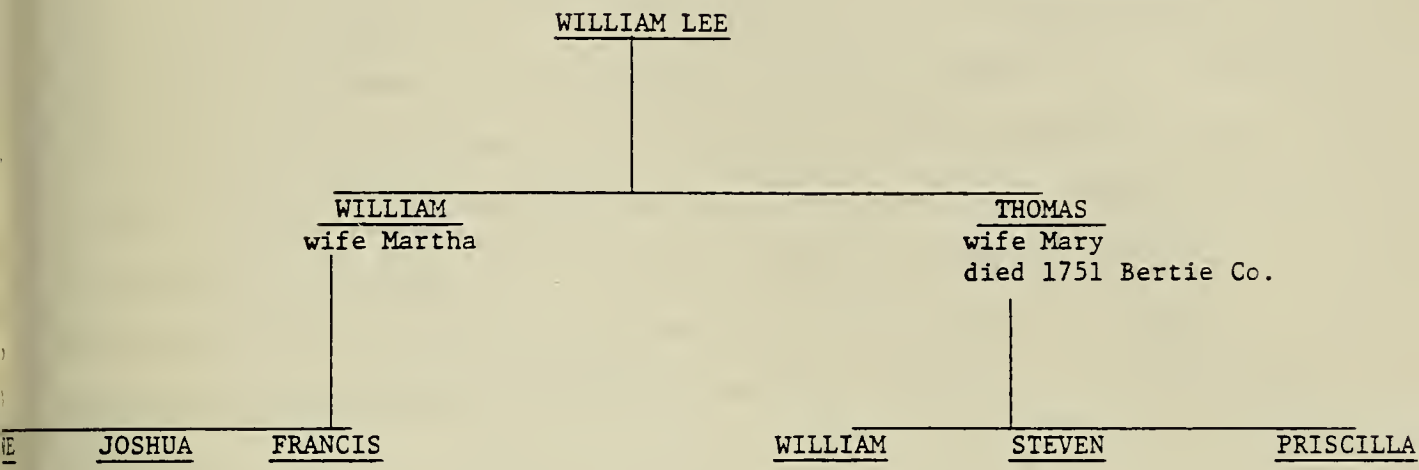
Philip Camarin of Northampton Co. to Elisha Durden of same Co. - 18 pds.- 120 acres in Maherin Neck on the west side of Buckhorn Swamp joining the Meadow Branch, John Hollyman, and the swamp and all the land wherein Daniel Camarin formerly dwelled and gave in his will to said Phillip. Wit: William Battle, Daniel Rogers, HENRY LEE.

V

The second area on the west side of Chowan River in which there was a concentration of LEE's was in the Wiccacon Creek area. This creek is south of the Meherrin River and flows into Chowan River. The LEEs initially lived on Brooks Creek which is in the neck between the Wiccacon River and Chowan River and is shown as (3) in Figure 1. This area is approximately 14 miles south of the area where the LEEs lived on Cypress Swamp in Chowan Co. The area was in Bertie Co., even after Northampton Co. was formed in 1741, but was mostly in Hertford Co. after 1760. Because of this, deeds available up until the time HENRY LEE bought land in 1763 have been studied.

WILLIAM LEE first appears in the area in 1726 when he buys 200 acres of land. All the other LEEs in this area probably descended from WILLIAM. The lineage based on information found in these deeds is shown in Figure 4. This is probably the WILLIAM LEE of Bertie Co. who later sold land on Cypress Swamp that JOHN LEE had patented in 1694. This would indicate that WILLIAM was a descendant, most likely a son of JOHN LEE. There was one appearance of WILLIAM LEE in the Cypress Swamp area when he witnessed a deed in 1725 in which Charles King bought land from John Daverson. Because the first land purchase on Brooks Creek was in 1726 this could well be the same WILLIAM LEE. And there does not appear to be any other WILLIAM LEE in Bertie Co. This area became a part of Hertford Co. in 1760 and is not too distant from the Indian Creek and Somerton Creek areas where other LEEs lived. There does not appear to be a HENRY LEE connection with the WILLIAM LEE or his descendants in the Wiccacon Creek area. The identity of the children of THOMAS LEE who died in 1751 was obtained from his will filed in Bertie Co. in 1752.

FIGURE 4



D. 1762
Hertford Co.

WILLIAM

TABLE III

LEES IN WICCACON CREEK AREA OF NORTH CAROLINA

The Wiccacon Creek area of North Carolina is on the west side of and joining the Chowan River. The area was initially a part of Chowan Precinct but after 1723 became a part of Bertie Precinct. This area remained a part of Bertie County even after Northampton Co. was formed in 1741. When Hertford Co. was formed in 1760 all of Wiccacon River was included in the county. Some of the tributaries upon which the LEEs lived, such as Barbecue Swamp and Chingapin Swamp extended into Bertie Co. As no records for early Hertford Co. exist, information after 1760 will be found only for those living south of the line in Bertie Co.

1. 1726 May 9 BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book B, page 105.
   James Rasberry and wife Briget to WILLIAM LEE - 50 lbs. - 200 acres on Deep Branch adjoining Francis Dunn.
   Wit: Charles Cavenah, William Barefield.
2. 1729 Nov. 12 BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book C, page 169.
   William Barnes and wife Lydia to William Askew - 60 lbs. - for within mentioned plantation. Wit: WILLIAM LEE, John Askew.
3. 1730 Nov. 8 BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book C, page 297.
   William Mainer of New River to Henry Mainer late of Bertie Prect., but now of New River. Wit: WILLIAM LEE, THOMAS LEE.
4. 1734/5 Feb. 4 BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book D, page 162.
   WILLIAM LEE to Henry Maynor - 100 acres on Brooks Creek.
   Wit: John Askew, Charles Hardie, John Wynns.
5. 1734 Oct. 12. BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book D, page 144.
   WILLIAM LEE, cooper, to THOMAS LEE, cooper, for love, good will and affection unto my son, THOMAS LEE - on s.w. side Brooks Creek and

north side Wiccacon Creek at Ferry Landing on southern side of main road. Wit: John Wynns, John Keefe.

6. 1735 Aug. 14. BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book D, page 234. Francis McClendon to Thomas Green, blacksmith, 50 lbs. - 510 acres on n.w. side of Barbecue Swamp adj. George Wynns, THOMAS LEE, James Castellaw.

7. 1736 Nov. 10. BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book E, page 64. Thomas Banks to William Lewis - land in Chinkapin Neck adj. John Van Pelt being my plantation in Plum Tree Neck formerly conveyed to Abraham Blewlet from William Bush. Wit: Isaac Lewis, THOMAS LEE.

8. 1737 May BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book E, page 137. John Rushing to John Thomas - 100 acres on Counritsis Swamp and e. side Rattlesnake Branch at Buck Branch. Wit: THOMAS LEE, Francis McClenden.

9. 1739 May 1. BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book E, page 447. John Hallum to John Wynns - 25 pounds - 50 acres on n. side Wiccacon Creek adj. THOMAS LEE, William Peek, THOMAS LEE.

10. 1740 Mar. 26. BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book F, page 151. Alexander Ballantine to Robert Sherman - 100 acres at Fork of Poly Branch adj. Joseph Watford, Tredle Keefe at Bridge Branch. Wit: John Wynns, THOMAS LEE.

11. 1741 Mar. 17. BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book F, page 280. William Peeke to John Wynns, yeoman - 100 pounds for 150 acres on n. side Wiccacon Creek adj. Wynn, THOMAS LEE, WILLIAM LEE on Dunn's Swamp.

12. 1742 June 11. BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book F, page 397. John Keefe to James Williams - late of Chinkapin Neck - 150 acres on e. side of Chinkapin Swamp. Wit: John Wynns, THOMAS LEE.

13. 1748/9 Jan. 7. BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book G, page 159.

WILLIAM LEE Junr. to THOMAS LEE - 20 pounds - 150 acres at Ferry landing of n. side Wiccacon Creek up the main road joining Henry Maynor to the first great branch of Brooks Creek.

14. 1752 Jan. 25. BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book G, page 509.

WILLIAM LEE, husbandsman, to JOSHUA, FRANCIS, and ANN LEE - 5 sh. - deed of gift for land and goodwill and affection toward my two sons JOSHUA LEE and FRANCIS LEE and my daughter ANN LEE - All my lands and tenements, goods and chattels - (1) to JOSHUA - that part of my land whereon he now lives as already known to be mutually agreed upon, (2) to FRANCIS - the plantation upon which I now live except the part already laid off to JOSHUA, (3) a feather bed to each son and a feather bed to ANN. The rest of my estate to be equally divided among the three children, not intended to be property of my sons and daughter until after the death of myself and my wife, MARTHA LEE - if either of my sons shall die without issue the survivor of them shall be invested.

Wit: WILLIAM LEE, Christopher Holloman, Peggy Wynns, Benjamin Wynns.

15. 1752 Mar. 6. BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book G, page 446.

Benjamin Wynns for THOMAS LEE to Bryant Hare - 20 lbs. - 150 acres, Benjamin Wynns, exec. of the last will and testament of THOMAS LEE, late of Bertie Co., decd. - land between Brooks Creek and the main road that leads to Wiccacon Ferry. Wit: John Brickell, Henry Winborn, Luke Rawls.

16. 1755 Nov. 7. BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book H, page 237.

WILLIAM LEE to John Van Pelt - 80 lbs. - 150 acres s. side Brooks Creek on the main road to the landing.

Wit: Benjamin Norvil, Joseph Wetherington, James Schusen.

17. 1762 8 Oct. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book K, page 293.

James Hare and WILLIAM LEE, orphan of JOSHUA LEE, deceased of Hertford Co.- purchased by Michael Ward, executor of the last will and testament

of the said deceased for the said orphan according to the terms of the said deceased will - 35 pounds paid by Michael Ward, executor for WILLIAM LEE, orphan of JOSHUA LEE, deceased, land in Bertie Co. - beginning on Chingapin Swamp at a pine on John Smith's line, along Burrell Butt's line to a lightwood swamp in John Maynor's line then along the same line to FRANCIS LEE's line to a beach on the Chinkapin Swamp-100 acres.

Wit: Dan Van Pelt, Matthew Hubbard, Thomas Bonnefort, Edward Hodgeson Junr.

18. 1763 31 May BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book K, page 295.

John Nowell of Bertie Co., yeoman, to FRANCIS LEE of the county afs.- 41 pounds-land on Chingapin Swamp-117 acres beginning Miry Branch, James Hare's line. Wit: Simon Van Pelt, John Freeman Junr.

19. 1763 1 Dec. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book K, page 374.

FRANCIS LEE of Bertie Co., planter, to John Askew of Hertford Co., 40 lbs. 6 sh. - 117 acres of land bounded - beginning at Chingapin Swamp at the mouth of Miry Branch, James Hare's line.

Wit: John Freeman, Thomas Bonnefort.

VI

JOHN LEE and JAMES LEE patented land in the area of the Morattock (Roanoke) River as early as 1719. JOHN LEE obtained three patents totaling 1580 acres and JAMES LEE patented 380 acres. A listing of the land transactions involving JOHN LEE and JAMES LEE may be found in Table IV. By 1734 JOHN LEE begins selling this land and a sale in 1740 shows that JOHN LEE and MARY, his wife, are residents of Edgecombe Co.

The Roanoke River land transactions are mentioned because of the name JOHN LEE. It could not be determined what connection he had with the LEE's who lived in the Cypress Swamp-Somerton Creek area of Chowan Co. The area along the Roanoke River was a long distance from the Virginia line and the area was never a part of Hertford Co. It appears that the LEEs mentioned in these deeds migrated a short distance to Edgecombe Co. It must also be remembered that two other LEEs, namely JOSHUA and RICHARD, who had roots in the Cypress Swamp area also ended up in Edgecombe Co. This is a natural migration route for settlers on the eastern seaboard as land was constantly being opened up in a westward direction. It is quite possible that JOHN LEE has a connection with these LEEs. Certainly it would be expected that JOHN LEE would have descendants bearing his name. There is, of course, a continuous line of JOHN LEEs living in the area along the North Carolina-Virginia line and in areas that were later parts of Hertford Co.

The records of land transactions in Edgecombe Co. involving the LEEs are available and are rather extensive. These will not be dealt with here as they involve relatives of HENRY LEE, not his ancestors. Edgecombe Co. wills show that RICHARD LEE died in 1752, SOLOMON LEE in 1762, JOSHUA LEE in 1777, and JAMES LEE in 1777.

TABLE IV

LEES IN MORATTOCK CREEK AREA OF N.C.

The Morattock River is today known as Roanoke River. At the time early patents were issued to JOHN LEE and JAMES LEE this was part of Chowan Co. In 1723 it became part of Bertie Precinct and in 1741 the area south of the river became part of Edgecombe Co. It is today part of Martin Co.

1. 1719/20 1 March NC LAND PATENT ABSTRACTS. # 2916, page 175.
   JOHN LEE patented 300 acres in Chowan Precinct on ye north side of Morattock River joining John Pace, Edmund Clark.
2. 1723 23 March. NC LAND PATENTS ABSTRACTS. #2064, page 133.
   JAMES LEE patented 380 acres in Bertie Prect. on north side of Morattock River joining Ralph Mason and the river side.
3. 1730 28 Sept. NC LAND PATENT ABSTRACTS. # 2600, page 261.
   JOHN LEE patented 640 acres on n. side of Conoho Creek joining the creek.
4. 1730 28 Sept. NC LAND PATENT ABSTRACTS. #2603, page 261.
   JOHN LEE patented 640 acres in Bertie Precinct on the west side of the Kenotoo Creek joining John Woods, the said LEE and meanders of said creek.
5. 1734 Oct. 19 BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book D, page 164.
   JOHN LEE to Thomas Spite - 80 pounds - 300 acres on n. side Connehoe Creek - part of a grant to JOHN LEE dated Sept. 28, 1730, adj. William Ayeret, land which was bought out of the same patent.
   Wit: Joseph Moore, John Ballard, Robt. Butler.
6. 1740 Aug. 21 BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book F, page 182.
   JOHN LEE and wife, MARY, of Edgecombe Co. to Theophilus Pugh of Nansemond Co. VA - 200 pounds-640 acres on w. side Keneetoe Creek. Being tract granted JOHN LEE by pat. dated Sept. 28,1730.
   Wit: T. Barker, John Pugh, W. Taylor.

VII

In 1763, HENRY LEE purchased 200 acres in Bertie Co. from Jonathan Standley. The land was on the north side of Casia Swamp between said Standley and James Harrell. The deed stated that HENRY LEE was from Hertford Co. and that he was a taylor. Four years later James Harrell sold HENRY LEE 74 acres of land in Bertie Co. in the fork of Cashy and Wattom and all the part on the west side of Poplar Branch near Wattom Swamp. This deed was witnessed by John Sholar. In this deed HENRY LEE is purchasing land from his neighbor James Harrell, land that almost certainly joined the 200 acres he had purchased in 1763. John Sholar is the father-in-law of HENRY LEE, the father of HENRY LEE's wife, SARAH.

This HENRY LEE is the same HENRY LEE who was living in the western part of Chowan Co. in 1759 and was one of those petitioning the governor of North Carolina to form a new county because of the distance of the residents from the county seat. The petition states "To his excellency Arthur Dobbs, Esquire, Goyernor, the members of his majesty's Honourable Council, the Honourable Mr. Speaker and the rest of the Members of Assembly on North Carolina now met in General Assembly.

"The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of the Counties of Chowan, Bertie, and Northampton Humbly Sheweth

"That the Inhabitants of the Western Part of Chowan County and the Northern Part of Bertie County and the Easternmost Part of Northampton County are very remote from their Respective Court Houses Which renders it very grievous and Burthensome to them to attend their Several and Respective Courts of Justice General, Musters, Election of Burgesses and Vestrymen, etc.

"Which grievance they Humbly Conceive may be Remedied by Legislative Power by Erecting those three Remote and Suffering Parts into one New County,etc."

The petition then proceeds with the signatures of the petitioners of

each of the three counties. The list for Chowan County includes JOHN LEE and HENRY LEE. As mentioned earlier this authentic signature was compared with signatures of HENRY LEE of Bertie Co. who made a will in 1803 and who was bondsman when his daughter ABIGAIL LEE married William King. The three signatures are identical and copies of the three documents may be found in the Appendix. There was a HENRY LEE living in Gates Co. also during the later part of the eighteenth century. This HENRY LEE could have conceivably been the petitioner in 1759 as the area of Gates Co. in which he appeared in 1779 was also a part of Hertford Co. up until 1779. Authentic signatures of this HENRY LEE were obtained and compared with the one on the petition. The signatures are not the same. Signatures of HENRY LEE of Gates Co. may also be found in the Appendix.

The fact that HENRY LEE who bought land in Bertie Co. in 1763 was a petitioner from western Chowan Co. in 1759 proves that he was living in that area in 1759. One other mention is made of HENRY LEE in Chowan Co. In 1754 he was a member of Captain Charles King's Co. of Militia along with JOHN LEE and JOHN LEE Junr. who were almost surely his brother and father. This will be discussed later. The sequence of events leading to HENRY LEE buying land in Bertie County in 1763 will be discussed and a possible reason presented.

What I intend to do is present a sequence of land transactions in Chowan County and in Bertie Co. which, along with information already available from an extensive study of the genealogy of the Kings living in the area, will offer an explanation for the presence of HENRY LEE in Bertie Co. in 1763. This will also substantiate that he was a resident of Chowan Co. previous to this. These land transactions may be found in Table V, along with the will of John Sholar.

The sequence of events are as follows:

1. In 1736, John Sholar, who later becomes the father-in-law of HENRY LEE, bought 135 acres of land on the N.E. side of Cashy Swamp. In subsequent

years he bought additional land in the same area. John Sholar died in 1791 and mentions his daughter SARAH LEE, wife of HENRY LEE. The land that he disposes of in his will is described as being on the north side of Wattom Swamp. The Cashie Swamp-Wattom Swamp area is shown on Figure 1 as (4). This area is just north of and adjoins the Rocquist Creek area where the Kings lived in Bertie Co. and near where the William King house was located.

2. In 1753 in Chowan Co., on Cypress Swamp, Charles King gave his son Solomon King 460 acres of land. This is the same Solomon King who died in 1794 and left a Bible record. In this record he gives the King genealogy. This Bible record is well known and will not be presented here in its entirety. He gives the date of death of his father-in-law JOHN LEE, his brother Henry King and his father Charles King. Other dates and genealogies are mentioned but are not pertinent to this presentation. The wife of Solomon King was ABIGAIL who was the daughter of JOHN LEE who died in 1770.

I have previously mentioned, but should emphasize that JOHN LEE and Charles King were neighbors on Cypress Swamp. Charles King was living on land that was patented by his father William King in 1703 and JOHN LEE on land patented by his father JOHN LEE in 1694 and thereafter. This is most certainly the JOHN LEE who has been shown to have a continuous presence in the area. He is the father of ABIGAIL LEE, wife of Solomon King. He is surely the father of HENRY LEE who also signed the petition in 1759. When HENRY LEE named his daughter ABIGAIL he was naming her after his sister.

3. In 1754 Henry King, son of Charles King of Chowan Co. bought 300 acres of land in Bertie Co, on Cashie Swamp in fork above John Wimberley from Nicholas Skinner. The deed states that Henry King is the son of Charles King of Chowan Co. He is therefore the brother of Solomon King who lived in Chowan Co. and who was also the son of Charles King. It is significant that the land he bought is in the same area where John Sholar lived. The land was on the Cashie Swamp and adjoined John Wimberley. As shown by John Sholar's

will two of his daughters married Wimberleys. The deed was witnessed by Ezekiel Wimberley, Charles King Junior and William King. The two Kings were residents of nearby Rocquist Swamp area. This was, in fact, the William King who built the King house in the area the previous year.

4. In 1758 Henry King obtained additional land in Bertie Co. from Lord Granville. This land was also on Casia Swamp and it will be shown that it adjoined land that he already owned.

5. In 1759 an unusual but very well documented event occured. The two brothers, Henry King and Solomon King, exchanged land. The Chowan Co. deeds show that Solomon King of Chowan Co. sold Henry King of Bertie Co. "all that plantation whereon I now live which was gratiously given to me by my father Charles King and by deed of gift dated 17 April 1753 - 460 acres." The deed was witnessed by Charles King and Henry King Senr.

The same year "Henry King of Bertie Co. sold Solomon King of Chowan Co. - my plantation in Bertie Co. on the south side of Casia Swamp which I purchased of Nicholas Skinner 8 June 1754 and now holding by virtue of an indenture deed made the 20th day of April 1758 from the right Honorable Lord Granville." The deed was also witnessed by Charles King.

These transactions are very important to my thesis. When Solomon King bought land from his brother in Bertie Co. he became a neighbor of John Sholar. If HENRY LEE is indeed the brother of Solomon King's wife ABIGAIL then he would most certainly have occasion to visit them and have opportunity to meet SARAH SHOLAR, their neighbor, who later became his wife. And remember that these exchanges of property by Solomon King and Henry King were in 1759. HENRY LEE could certainly have been a resident of Chowan Co. on Cypress Swamp in 1759 when the petition was signed and in Bertie Co. in 1760 and thereafter. Previous to the time when Henry King purchased the land in Bertie Co. in 1754 he was a neighbor of HENRY LEE on Cypress Swamp in Chowan Co. HENRY LEE

could even have visited Henry King in Bertie Co. and met Sarah Sholar before 1759. HENRY LEE and SARAH SHOLAR could have conceivably been married as early as 1754.

Although it will later be brought out, it must be remembered that William King, the son of the above Henry King, married ABIGAIL LEE, the daughter of the above HENRY LEE in 1791. The two parents were certainly neighbors on Cypress Swamp in Chowan Co.

6. As already mentioned HENRY LEE first bought land in Bertie Co. in 1763. The land was in the same area as John Sholar and Solomon King - on the north side of Casia Swamp. The land was near both his sister, ABIGAIL, wife of Solomon King, and his father-in-law, John Sholar. It is not known when HENRY LEE and SARAH SHOLAR married. HENRY LEE bought land for his son, JOHN SHOLAR LEE, in 1775. The fact that the land was bought for JOHN instead of by him indicates that he was not yet of age. He could have been any age, but most likely of an age to live on the land. If this is true then it is quite possible that HENRY LEE and SARAH SHOLAR were married by 1759 or perhaps even earlier. An earlier date would indicate that HENRY LEE met SARAH through visits to Henry King, not to Solomon King and his wife ABIGAIL.

7. In 1766 Solomon King and his wife ABIGAIL sold the 260 acres on Casia Swamp to Absalom Carney. The Bertie Co. deed refers to Solomon King of Hertford Co. and ABIGAIL his wife. It cannot be determined when Solomon and ABIGAIL returned to Hertford Co. and if he bought land there at the time. Records of Hertford Co. are not available. The area of Hertford Co. to which Solomon returned was the area on Cypress Swamp where the Kings had previously lived and were still living. It could have been to land inherited from his father, Charles King, who died in 1762. Both Solomon King and Henry King, at their deaths, were still living in the same area as their grandfather,

William King, who patented land on Cypress Swamp in 1703.

8. Mention has already been made of the fact that HENRY LEE bought land for his son, JOHN SHOLER LEE, in 1775. This land was described as being in the fork of Cashie and Wattom Swamps. Additional deeds are available for the LEEs of this area but will not be dealt with here as they serve only to show HENRY LEE's descendants, not his ancestors. All land mentioned is on Cashie Swamp. These transactions may be found in Table V.

9. One deed, however, is of sufficient interest to be mentioned. JOHN LEE and ABIGAIL his wife of Nansemond Co. VA sold William King of Gates Co. 225 acres in Bertie Co. in 1792. This was the year after William King of Gates Co. married ABIGAIL LEE, daughter of HENRY LEE of Bertie Co. The land is described as adjoining HENRY LEE and was on Wattom Swamp. William King sold this land the next year. It is not known whether or not William actually lived on the land. He was a resident of Gates Co. when he married ABIGAIL LEE in 1791 and appears prominently in the records of that county until moving to Guilford Co. in 1800. Because the land adjoined HENRY LEE it must be assumed that the JOHN LEE selling the land was the son of HENRY LEE and that this was land purchased for JOHN LEE in 1775. This shows that JOHN LEE, son of HENRY LEE of Bertie Co. has moved to Nansemond Co. VA. He could have been returning to the area where the LEEs were living along the Virginia-North Carolina border or he could be further north in Nansemond Co. This will be more fully explored later when dealing with HENRY LEE of Gates Co.

10. In 1797 JOSHUA LEE, son of HENRY LEE, bought land in Guilford Co., NC. Before leaving he sold the 150 acres on Cashie Swamp given to him by his father. This sale was in 1796. What I wish to show is that the deed was witnessed by his brother HENRY LEE Junr. In 1801 HENRY LEE joined his son JOSHUA LEE in Guilford Co. Before leaving he sold his

land to his son, HENRY LEE Junr. of Bertie Co. The deed was between HENRY LEE Senr. and HENRY LEE Junr., both of Bertie Co. for 159 acres of land on Cashy Swamp. HENRY LEE Junr. remained in the same location and acquired additional land in the same area. HENRY LEE Junr. died in 1822. His wife ANN received dower of 249 acres in the fork of Cashy and Wattom Swamps. This information is not pertinent to finding the ancestors of HENRY LEE of Bertie Co. It is presented, however, with a purpose - to show that the HENRY LEE who married Anna Freeman and died in 1822 was the son of HENRY LEE of Bertie Co. This will be more fully discussed later.

TABLE V

LEES ON WATTOM SWAMP AND CASHIE SWAMP AREA OF BERTIE COUNTY, NC

1. 1736 11 Aug. BERTIE CO. DEED ABSTRACTS. Book D, page 315.
Samuel Dickens to John Sholar - 10 lbs. - 135 acres on N.E. side of Cashy Swamp.
Wit: Samuel Dickens, James Howard, James Parker, John Barnes.

2. 1753 17 Apr. CHOWAN CO. DEEDS. Book F, page
CHARLES KING of Chowan Co. to his son SOLOMON KING of Chowan Co. - deed of gift - 460 acres.

3. 1754 June 8. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book H, page 113.
Nicholas Skinner to HENRY KING, son of CHARLES KING of Chowan Co. - 27 lbs., 10 sh. - 300 acres on Cashie Swamp in fork above John Wimberley's. Wit: CHARLES KING Junr., WILLIAM KING, Ezekiel Wimberley.

4. 1758 20 April. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book 1, page 319.
John Granville to HENRY KING of Bertie Co. - land in Society Parish on south side of Casia Swamp - beg. at a cypress at the mouth of Reedy Branch - near George House's corner-to an ash in Casia Swamp.

5. 1759 CHOWAN CO. DEEDS. Book M, page 271.
SOLOMON KING of Chowan Co. to HENRY KING of Bertie Co. - 130 pounds - all that plantation whereon I now live which was gratiously given to me by my father CHARLES KING and by deed of gift dated 17 Apr. 1753 - 460 acres. Wit: CHARLES KING, HENRY KING Senr., Robert Cooper.

6. 1759 Oct. 11. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book I, page 379.
HENRY KING of Bertie Co., to SOLOMON KING of Chowan Co. - 100 lbs. my plantation in Bertie Co. on the south side of Casia Swamp which I

purchased of Nicholas Skinner 8 June 1754 and now holding by virtue of an indenture deed made the 20th day of Apr. 1758 from the right honorable Lord Granville - contained by the said indenture - 260 acres according to the bounds expressed in the same indenture. Wit: CHARLES KING, Thomas Barnes, John Minshew.

7. 1763 13 Oct. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book K, page 340.
Jonathan Standley of Bertie Co., to HENRY LEE of Hertford Co. - a tract of land containing 200 acres lying on north side of Casia Swamp - line between said Standley and James Harrell.
Wit: Cader Cherry, Martha Cherry.

8. 1766 14 June. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book L, page 30.
SOLOMON KING of Hertford Co. planter, and ABIGAIL his wife, to Absalom Carney - 200 lbs. - 260 acres - beg. at a cypress mouth of Reedy Branch - George House's corner - Wimberley's line to ash in Casia Swamp. Wit: Thomas Howell, Thomas Ritter, Elizabeth Ritter.

9. 1767 13 Jan. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book C, page 83.
James Harrell of Bertie Co., planter, and Judith his wife to HENRY LEE, taylor, of afs. co. - 12 lbs, 10 sh. - land in Bertie Co. in the fork of Cashy and Wattom being part of a parcel of land formerly surveyed and patented by Thomas Rhodes and since sold from one to another until it came to the hands of my father Richard Harrell of Perquimans Co., from him to me, James Harrell, by free gift and all my part that lies on the west side of Poplar Branch near Wattom Swamp -74 acres. Wit: John Sholar, David Sholar.

10. 1775 BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book M, page 186.
Ezekiel Wimberley - for 60 proclamation money paid by HENRY LEE - sells to JOHN SHOLAR LEE, the said HENRY LEE's son, a certain tract of land - 175 acres in the fork of Casia And Wattom Swamps - Robert

Carter's corner - Murphree's corner.

Wit: Cater Powell, Jesse Vinson, Frederick Wimberley.

11. 1788 10 Sept. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book O, page 288.

Benjamin Carter of Martin Co. to HENRY LEE of Bertie Co. NC - 5 pounds- 35 acres n. side Cashy Swamp adj. sd. HENRY LEE's line, Robert Carter.

12. 1793 23 Feb. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book P, page 278.

HENRY LEE of Bertie Co. NC - for and in consideration which I have to my son JOSHUA LEE of said county - 115 acres on north side of Casia Swamp adj. Poplar Branch.

Wit: WILLIAM KING, LEMUEL LEE.

13. 1793 23 Feb. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book P, page 415.

HENRY LEE of Bertie Co. NC have given to my son JOHN LEE, one negro girl named Amey. Wit: WILLIAM KING, LEMUEL LEE, JOSHUA LEE.

14. 1792 20 Oct. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book P, page 416.

JOHN LEE and ABIGAIL his wife of Nansemond Co. VA to WILLIAM KING of Gates Co. NC - 260 lbs. - 225 acres in Be-tie Co. NC adjoining Carter's corner, HENRY LEE, Robert Bridges, Benjamin Melton, Wattom Swamp. Wit: JOSHUA LEE, LEMUEL LEE, David Carrell.

15. 1796 26 Jan. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book R, page 57.

JOSHUA LEE of Bertie Co. NC to Willis Powell of Bertie Co. - 150 acres on north side of Cashy Swamp adj. Poplar Branch, Cashy Swamp.

Wit: Cader Powell, Jr., HENRY LEE Junr., Lewis Juragin.

16. 1801 8 Feb. BERTIE CO. DEEDS. Book S, page 342.

HENRY LEE Senr. of Bertie Co. NC to HENRY LEE Junr. of afs. county- $1500. - 159 acres land on north side of Cashy Swamp adj. Cader Powell, William Pugh, Willis Powell, Robert Carter, Shadrick Dunning, Wattom Swamp, said HENRY LEE Junr. line, said HENRY LEE's line.

Signed by: HENRY LEE Senr.

Wit: Jno. Horne, Willis Powell, Benjamin Minton.

WILL OF JOHN SHOLAR OF BERTIE COUNTY, NC

1791 12 Aug. - (Abstracts only)

-Mentions daughters Murbelle Wimberley, SARAH LEE, Judith Tool, Mary Wimberley.

-Leaves land north side of Wattom Swamp to the three sons of his deceased son David Sholar - mentions LEMUEL LEE's line.

-Gives to grandson LEMUEL LEE, son of my daughter SARAH and HENRY LEE the manor plantation where he lived - 250 acres.

-Appoints my son-in-law HENRY LEE my executor.

-Likewise I appoint my trusted friends Benjamin Sholar and JOHN SHOLAR LEE the sole executors of the remainder of my estate.

Test: JOSHUA LEE
David Harrell
Reuben Stallens

VIII

A probable lineage chart of the descendants of JOHN LEE who first patented land in Nansemond Co. is shown in Figure 3.1 P.23 This chart has been constructed based on information found in the numerous land transactions. There are no wills for any of the JOHN LEEs even though there appear to be at least four of them. When HENRY LEE signed the petition from Chowan Co. in 1759 the only other LEEs in the county were JOHN LEE and JOHN LEE Junr. JOHN LEE had to be his father. The JOHN LEE connection not conclusively proved is the connection between the JOHN LEE who died in 1739 and the JOHN LEE who died in 1770. Because there is a JOHN LEE constantly living in the area but no other LEE until 1754 the probability is strong that JOHN LEE who died in 1770 is living on land patented by his father. There is also the possibility that this is the JOHN LEE patenting land in 1720. The lineage shown is the best that can be shown with information available.

I have presented the chart of WILLIAM LEE of Bertie Co. separately. Dates of death of some of those mentioned would fit better if this WILLIAM LEE were the brother of the JOHN LEE who died in 1739 rather than a son. It is also possible that RICHARD LEE is also a brother of the same JOHN LEE as he was living on land patented by JOHN LEE in 1694, before the death of JOHN LEE in 1739.

The lineage as it pertains to HENRY LEE who married SARAH SHOLAR has a high probability of being correct. I shall discuss the other HENRY LEE separately.

IX

In Chapter VII evidence was presented to show that HENRY LEE of Bertie Co. was the son of JOHN LEE who lived in the Somerton Creek area and died in 1770. There was also a HENRY LEE who lived in Gates Co. after 1779 and died there in 1806. I believe he is also a descendant of this same JOHN LEE and I will attempt to show a connection. Because of the absence of records of Nansemond Co. VA, this is not an easy task. Both HENRY LEE who later bought land in Gates Co. and his father, JOHN LEE Junr. appear to have been residents of the Virginia side of the dividing line between the two states.

HENRY LEE of Gates Co. married Elizabeth Pipkin in 1779. There is no record of HENRY LEE prior to 1779. This could be because the area was part of Hertford Co. and records are not available. It could also be because HENRY LEE was not of age and not a landowner before his marriage. The first mention of a purchase of land in Gates Co. was in 1780, the year after his marriage, when he purchased 110 acres on Beaverdam Creek from Aaron Odom. In the first tax lists of Gates Co. on which he is mentioned, 1784, he paid taxes on 110 acres. The inference is that he had no other land prior to this purchase. This would preclude that he had inherited land in North Carolina. There is no mention of his probable father, JOHN LEE, as a land owner in Gates Co. The only other landowner is a LEVI LEE whose connection, if any, to HENRY LEE has not been determined. Deeds in which HENRY LEE bought land or is mentioned have been grouped in Table VI, p. 66.

The militia list for Chowan Co. for 1754 shows a JOHN LEE, a JOHN LEE Junr. and HENRY LEE. I believe this HENRY LEE is the same one who signed the petition in 1759 and later moved to Bertie Co. JOHN LEE Junr. and HENRY

LEE appear to be brothers and sons of JOHN LEE. JOHN LEE Junr. appears to be older than HENRY LEE. He bears his father's first name and appears on the tax lists after 1754. I believe this JOHN LEE Junr. is the father of HENRY LEE who appears in 1779. He names a son after his brother HENRY. Evidence strongly supports this connection, however, I have found no conclusive proof. The elder JOHN LEE was also the father of ABIGAIL LEE who married SOLOMON KING.

HENRY LEE remained in Gates Co. and died there in 1806. He purchased additional land as shown in Table VI. In 1783 he purchased an additional 110 acres of land. From that year until 1792 he paid taxes on 185 acres, not 220 as would be expected. HENRY LEE lived near the dividing line between North Carolina and Virginia. It is possible that 35 acres of land was in Virginia and he paid no North Carolina tax on this. He bought an additional 353 acres in 1793 from James Reddick and the land on which he paid taxes increased by this amount. He bought 275 acres from John Long in 1795 and again the number of acres on which he paid taxes increased by the same amount. From 1796 until his death he paid taxes on 815 acres even though he apparently bought a small amount of additional land in 1800.

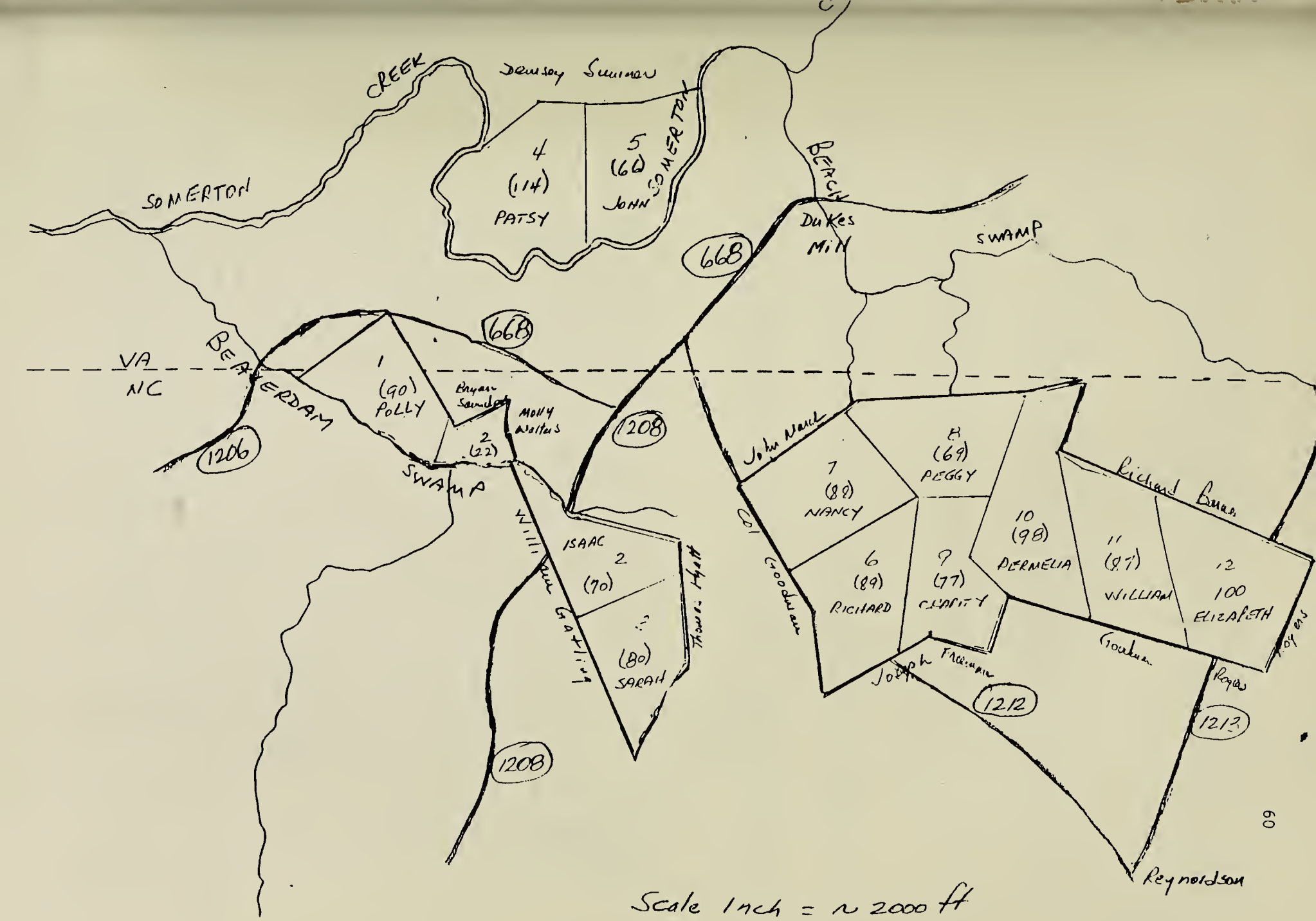
HENRY LEE died intestate in 1806. His land was divided up among his 12 children. The division is described in the deeds of Gates Co. of 1807. These deeds have been abstracted. A copy of the abstract pertaining to the land division can be found in Table VII. The division among the twelve children was of 1050 acres. 180 acres of this was definitely in Virginia. This leaves 870 acres in Gates Co. and part of this appears to be in Virginia also. HENRY LEE was probably correct when he paid taxes on 815 acres in North Carolina. But that leaves 235 acres in Nansemond Co. This will be discussed later.

The information found in Table VII along with information obtained to deeds of adjoining landowners have been used in an attempt to pinpoint the

location of the land where HENRY LEE lived. The division into twelve parts is shown in Figure 5. The land appears to fall into four separate areas. An area of 110 acres including survey No. 1 and part of survey No. 2 appears as though it could be partly in Virginia. This could be the missing 35 acres. The division states that HENRY LEE lived on the area of Survey No. 1. This means that he lived on Beaverdam Creek near the Virginia line. POLLY LEE received this portion in the division. The second block appears to join the land on which HENRY LEE lived and to also be on Beaverdam. The last two large purchases made by HENRY LEE are east of Beaverdam and include some branches of Beach Swamp. The two purchases were adjoining and were divided among seven of the children. Between surveys 2 and 3 and surveys 6 and 7 is a piece of land of 333 acres purchased by William Goodman in 1796. The parameters of this purchase are not sufficiently definite to establish the exact distances between the parts of HENRY LEE's land. The location of all surveys shown in Figure 5 is only approximate. They are not absolute. They have been placed on Figure 5 for one reason - to show that this is not land patented by JOHN LEE in 1694. It could have conceivably been the 1720 patent or a purchase. This does not, however, appear in the records.

Surveys No. 4 and 5 were on the north side of Somerton Creek. I have shown a probable location of these two surveys in Figure 5. The contours of Somerton Creek at this point is such that the two surveys fit reasonably well except that the acreage in this bend is somewhat larger than that in the two surveys. It is quite possible that Somerton Creek is narrower today than in 1807 and that the acreage in the bend has been thus enlarged. It is also possible that the location of these two surveys on Somerton Creek is at some point further west. I tend to believe this is the right area because it fits the contours mentioned in the 1807 division fairly well and because of the close proximity to other land of HENRY LEE.

Mention should be made of a deed from Jesse Saunders to Bray Saunders in 1795 and a deed from Bray Saunders to Bryant Saunders in 1800. The land involved adjoins both HENRY LEE on the south and Somerton Creek on the north. Bryant Saunders is shown as a neighbor of HENRY LEE in the 1807 land division and is just below the Virginia line. The land being bought extends to Somerton Creek which is 300-400 yards north of the border. What is involved is a Gates Co. deed for land both in North Carolina and Virginia. It is quite likely that the adjoining land of HENRY LEE which becomes part of Survey No. 1 is also partly in Virginia. It is quite likely that other residents along the dividing line between the two states have land in both Nansemond Co. and Gates Co. The general area in which HENRY LEE lived is shown as (5) in Figure 1.


SOMERTON
CREEK
Demsey Summer
4
(114)
PATSY
5
(66)
JOHN
SOMERTON
BEACH
Dukes
Mill
SWAMP
668
668
VA
NC
BEAVERDAM
1
(90)
POLLY
Bryan
Saunders
Molly
Walters
2
(22)
1206
SWAMP
1208
John Nance
7
(88)
NANCY
8
(69)
PEGGY
Richard Bruce
10
(98)
PERMELIA
11
(87)
WILLIAM
12
100
ELIZABETH
Col
Goodman
6
(89)
RICHARD
9
(77)
CHARITY
Joseph Freeman
Goodman
Rogers
Rogers
1212
1213
Reynoldson
William Gatling
ISAAC
2
(70)
(80)
SARAH
Thomas Hyatt
1208
Scale 1 inch = ~ 2000 ft

344 6 Aug 1805--John Wiggens of Gates to Jesse Wiggens of Nansemond 100 pds...parcel of land on Bennett's Creek...beginning near road at ford...to Amos Parker's line...187 acres...same plantation where Jethro Benton formerly lived...

John Wiggens

Eley x Duke
Jesse Wiggens Jr

346 18 Nov 1806--Elisha Cross to Thomas Riddick...$50...plantation where John Cuff lives...in White Pot...running S to Christian Riddick's, dec...to Dempsey Odam's line...containing 50 acres...

Elisha Cross

Pa. Hegarty

347 3 Apr 1805--John Cowper to Isaac Hunter...1000 acres...known by name of Pierce's Borough Swamp...

John Cowper

John Granbery

349 18 Oct 1806--Elizabeth Eason and John Kelly...for 100 silver dollars paid by Jethro Meltear...do sell one Negro girl named Silly..

Timothy Walton

350 Nov Court 1806--Ordered that Joseph Freeman, Bryan Saners, Jonathan Rogers, James Gatling and Henry Goodman...with the surveyor... make a division of the real estate of Henry Lee, dec...

L. Baker,
County Clerk

350 16 Feb 1807--Persuant to an order of Gates County Court hereunto annexed we the subscribed being duly qualified for the purpose of making a division of the real estate of Henry Lee, dec. between his heirs respectfully: Set apart and allot to: Survey No. 1--Polly Lee...containing 90 acres...whereon said Lee lately dwelt...beginning at a pine at Bernard March's corner in the Short Beaver Dam thence up a branch 35 poles to a pine thence N 50 E 43 thence N 58 E 71 to a pine stump on the W side of the road at the Poly bridge thence S32 E 131 to a pine thence running across the plantation S 25 W 54 to a pine in the Short Beaver Dam then down the run and binding thereon to the first station. Subject to a deduction of $3.25. No. 2--Isaac Lee...containing 92 acres beginning at a red oak in William Gatling's line then N 20 W 172 to a pine in the Short Beaver Dam thence down the run to a corner pine thence N 25 E54 to a pine in Bryan Saunders' line thence S 32 E 14 to a pine at the barrier thence N 75 E 55 to a Spanish oak in Molly Walter's line thence on her line S3 W 26 to a pine stump thence S 18 E 31 to the said Gatling's corner in the Short Beaver Dam thence up the run to the NE prong of S 73 E 118 to a maple in the branch thence up E branch S 33 to water oak thence S 70 W 117 to first station. Note: this includes 70 acres of the Aaron tract and 22 acres of the manner plantation with $66.75 to be paid him from No. 10. No. 3--Sarah Cross...containing 80 acres beginning at a red oak in William Gatling's line thence N 70 E 117 to a water oak in a branch in Thomas Hyatt's line thence S 93 to the head of a branch thence down the middle of the branch to the run of the Beaver Dam thence down said run to William Gatling's line thence on his line N 20 W 151 to the first station with $66.75 to be paid her out of the following Nos. No. 10 pays $7.75 No. 7 pays $55.25 No. 1 pays $3.25 and No. 9 pays .50.

.50. No. 4--Patsy Lee...being part of the tract on the other side of Summerton Creek bridge beginning at a gum in the branch in Dempsey Sumner's line thence running across the tract S 132 to the main run of the creek then down the run its various courses to a corner cypress standing in the mouth of a branch thence up said branch 43 poles to a pine a corner thence in Sumner's line N 44 E 71 to a pine thence N 40 E 10 to a black gum in a branch thence up said branch 47 poles to the first station...containing 114 acres with $20.75 to be paid her out of the following: No. 12 pays $14.25 No. 11 pays 6.50. No 5--John Lee...containing 66 acres it being the balance of the tract over Summerton Creek bridge beginning at a gum in the branch thence up Dempsey Sumner's line S 85 E 17 to a black gum thence N 82 E 9 to a pine thence N 89 E 21 to a pine N 83 E 8 to a white gum a corner of said Sumner's standing in the head of a small branch down the same N 68 E 40 to Sumerton Creek thence down said creek the various courses of the run to the dividing line by us made thence on said line N 132 to the first station with $44.75 to be paid him out of No. 11. No. 6--Richard Lee...containing 89 acres it being a part of the Riddick purchase beginning at a pine Col. Goodman's corner thence on his line N 6 W 79 thence N 29 W 50 thence on the new line N 57 E 154 to a pine and hickory a corner thence S 8 W 168 to a post oak in Joseph Freeman's line thence on his line S 64 W 86 to the beginning with $29.75 to be paid to him from the following: No. 9 pays $10.75 No. 12 pays $19. No. 7--Nancy Lee...containing 88 acres adjoing Pla_ place beginning at a corner hickory and pine thence S 57 W 154 to Col. Goodman's line in or near a branch thence N 39 W 100 to his corner white oak near a branch thence N 39 W 100 to his corner white oak (now down) on W side of the flat branch thence N 57 E 134 to a pine called the May thence S 50 E 105 to the first station subject to a deduction of $55.25. No. 8--Peggy Parker...containing 69 acres beginning at a pine called the May in John March's line thence with his line N 83 E 20 to a pine thence E 171 to a pine on Pearce's branch thence S 80 to a pine and hickory a corner thence N 50 W 105 to the first station with $20.75 to be paid her from No. 10. No. 9--Charity Lee... containing 77 acres beginning at a post oak in Joseph Freeman's line thence N 8 E 166 to a corner hickory and pine thence E 80 to a gum a corner in Pearce's branch then up said branch binding on Lang's old line 79 poles to a pine a corner thence S 45 E 51 to a pine said Freeman's corner thence S 19 W 58 to a persimmon a corner on a branch thence down the run 55 poles to a gum thence S 64 W 39 to the beginning station subject to a deduction of $11.25. No. 10--Permelia Goodman...98 acres beginning at a pine stump at the end of Maj. Hunter's Mill Dam Richard Barnes's corner thence S 20 W 80 to a hickory a corner thence S 12 E 153 to a pine poplin in Freeman's line thence N 72 W 91 to a pine a corner thence N 45 W 51 to a pine in Riddick's old line thence on said line and Pearce's Branch to the Beech Swamp thence up the run to the first station. Subject to a deduction of $95.25. No. 11--William Lee...containing 87 acres on which stands William Lang's dwelling house beginning at a hickory Richard Barnes's corner thence on his line S 65 E 27 to a pine thence S 81 E 22 to a pine thence S 69 E 65 to the run of Deep Branch thence up the run to the mill path thence along said path of a pine a corner thence S 9 E 18 to a pine Col. Goodman's corner thence in his line N 72 W 110 to a pine sapling in Joseph Freeman's line thence S 12 W 153 to the first station. Subject to a deduction of $51.25. No. 12--Elizabeth Lee...containing 100 acres beginning at Deep Branch on Richard Barnes' line running thence S 69 E 170 to a red oak Phillip Rogers' line S 26 W 124 to a pine a corner thence on Capt. Rogers' line N 72 W 83 to Col Goodman's corner pine thence N 9 W 81 to a

pine a corner on the mill path thence along said path 35 poles to the run of Deep Branch thence down said run to the first station. Subject to a deduction of $33.25...

Joseph Freeman
Briant Saunders
Jonathan Rogers
James Gatling
Henry Goodman
Patrick Hegerty

352 12 Feb 1807--William Goodman, Sr., ex to last will and testament of Henry E. Sears, dec. and Hillary Willey...whereas Henry E. Sears departed this life in 1806...having appointed William Goodman sole executer to dispose at public sale tract of land..beginning at mouth of a small branch issuing out of Goff's Folly Branch on N side of public road...to John Cross' line to William Goodman's corner...48 acres purchased by Henry Sears of John Brady...for 145 pds 10 sh 6 pence sell to Hillory Willey...

William Goodman

Jethro D. Goodman

356 2 Jan 1807--William Bond Sr. to Richard Bond, his son, for consideration of love and affection...tract of land...60 acres, whereon I now live...

William Bond

J.B. Walton
John Hill

356 2 Jan 1807--William Bond Sr. to Richard Bond, my beloved son, ...all personal goods and chattels: 1 Negro man named Ben, 3 feather beds and furniture 1 yoke of steers and cart 6 head of cattle 12 head of hogs 5 pewter dishes 4 basins 18 puter plates 5 puter dishes 3 iron pots...

William Bond

J.B. Walton
John Hill

360 2 Feb 1807--Jethro Benton and Treasy Benton, his wife, to Luke Green for $210...parcel of land on Balis Swamp...beginning at a corner of Jacob Gordon's John Jones' and Luke Green's patent... between land allotted to Elizabeth Speight, wife of Aaron Speight... 110 acres...formerly belonging to Thomas Fullington and by his last will and testament divided to his three granddaughters...Isaac Pearce's daughters...this being part allotted to Treasy Benton...

Jethro Benton
Treasy Benton

Samuel Green
Aaron Speight

361 8 Apr 1806--Bray Saunders and Elizabeth Saunders of Hertford County...for 227 pds 10 sh...to Joseph Freeman...parcel of land beginning at a pine...a corner tree of Henry Goodman's and William Goodman's and Henry Lee's thence running Henry Goodman's line to William Goodman's corner up Henry Lee's line...105 acres...

Bray Saunders
Elizabeth Saunders

John Freeman
Abel Cross
Jesse Vann

X

I have speculated that JOHN LEE is a brother of HENRY LEE of Bertie Co. and ABIGAIL LEE KING of Gates Co. This is the same JOHN LEE referred to as JOHN LEE Junr. before the elder JOHN LEE died in 1770. There does not appear to be a JOHN LEE living in Gates Co. from 1779 when the county was formed from Hertford Co. until the death of HENRY LEE in 1806. There is a JOHN LEE referred to in the records but he appears to be a resident of Nansemond Co. Reference is made to JOHN LEE in 1792 when Solomon King had three deeds of trust for the benefit of certain of his grandchildren. JOHN LEE was one of the trustees and was referred to as a trusted friend. The exact relationship was not given. Also in 1792 JOHN LEE of Nansemond Co. sold a horse to Solomon King's granddaughter, Rebecca King Valentine. This could well be the same JOHN LEE who was trustee and he could well be Solomon King's brother-in-law. The deed involving the sale of a horse locates JOHN LEE in Nansemond Co. in 1792.

Another deed in 1795 also locates JOHN LEE in Nansemond Co. In fact it locates him in the same area as the land HENRY LEE owned north of Somerton Creek at his death. The deed in question is also in Table VI. It is a deed previously referred to in which two tracts of land were sold by Uriah and John Odom to Jethro Sumner of Nansemond Co. One tract has been previously used to locate a JOHN LEE the elder and a younger JOHN LEE in 1717. The second tract locates a JOHN LEE in 1795. The deed states "One piece being purchased by Richard Sanders of JOHN LEE containing 100 acres by deed dated 18 Nov. 1795 it doth appear on records of Nansemond Co. VA. In 1795 JOHN LEE is selling land in the same general area in which the two other LEEs lived in 1717. The land divided in 1806 mentioned Demsey Sumner

as a neighbor on the north side of Somerton Creek. This Demsey Sumner could be related to the Jethro Sumner mentioned in the 1795 deed. It is possible that JOHN LEE, brother-in-law of Solomon King, and HENRY LEE had adjoining land on the north side of Somerton Creek. This could well be where HENRY LEE lived before he married Elizabeth Pipkin in 1779. The area north of Somerton Creek is only a short distance from where the Pipkins lived in Gates Co.

The evidence presented here shows that HENRY LEE had land in Virginia on Somerton Creek. His presence in this area would strongly suggest that he was descended from the JOHN LEE who patented land there in 1694. The JOHN LEE referred to as being present in 1792 and 1795 is the only other LEE found in this area. This suggests but does not prove that this is the father of HENRY LEE. Information is not sufficient for a conclusive connection.

It must also be remembered that JOHN LEE, son of HENRY LEE of Bertie Co. was also a resident of Nansemond Co. when he sold his land in Bertie Co. to William King. There is the possibility that this is the same JOHN LEE mentioned as trusted friend of Solomon King and who sold the horse. There could easily have been two JOHN LEEs in Nansemond Co. and conceivably in the same area. I have not been able to resolve this issue.

TABLE VI

GATES COUNTY DEEDS

1780 14 April BOOK A, page 57

Aaron Odom to HENRY LEE - 200 pounds - 110 acres in Gates Co. that Aaron Odom purchased from Moses Hare - beg. in a corner pine, John Drury's line - running up the short Beaverdam to the fork thence up the N. E. prong to a maple then running along John Porter's line to the short Beaverdam Swamp then running in the swamp to Porter's line then along the said Porter's line to Solomon Hyatt's line to the long Beaverdam Swamp and then running down the swamp to the first station. Wit: John Bethey, Jesse Hyatt.

1783 8 Oct. BOOK A, page 73.

Demsey Odom to HENRY LEE, both of Gates Co., 7 pounds, 4 sh. - land in Gates Co. beginning at the Beaverdam Swamp on a line that was formerly called John Duke's then along said Duke's line to said Drury's to a corner tree belonging to John Drury and Aaron Odom and Jacob Walters up the short Beaverdam Swamp to the fork then down John Webb's line to a branch making out of Beach Swamp, then the said branch to a pine standing in the head of said branch then running a S.E. course to the Beaverdam Swamp then down said swamp to the beginning - 110 acres.

1786 18 Nov. BOOK 1, page 240.

Zachariah Copeland and William Copeland of Nansemond Co. VA to William Goodman of Gates Co. NC - 190 pounds - land in Gates Co. which the above two were impowered by Joseph Porter's last will and testament to sell at public sale to highest bidder-which land the said Joseph

Porter came by the last will and testament of John Porter dec'd. 20 June 1772. Beginning at a pine Henry Goodman, Solomon Hyatt and James Riddick's corner, running northly James Riddick's line to white oak in a branch coming out of the Beach Swamp standing in David March's line then running a west course along the said March's line to Jacob Walter's line and so to HENRY LEE's line, then running the said LEE's line to Solomon Hyat's line, then running the said Hyat's line to first station. 333 acres. Wit: Jno Lawrence, Henry Goodman, Elisha Copeland.

4. 1790 24 April. VOL. 2, page 146

Solomon King appoints trusted friends JOHN LEE, David Darden and Jethro Sumner etc. Wit: William Oodham, Uriah Oodham, John Landen.

5. 1791 31 October. VOL. 2, page 308.

Solomon King appoints trusted friends David Darden, JOHN LEE, and Jethro Sumner trustees to take care etc.

Wit: Isaac Weatherly, Elizabeth Tynes, James Bab.

6. 1792 23 April. VOL. 2, page 341.

Solomon King places trusted friends David Darden, JOHN LEE and Jethro Sumner as trustees etc. Wit: William Odom, John Odom.

7. 1792 23 April VOL. 2, page 344.

JOHN LEE of Nansemond Co., state of Virginia to Rebecca King Valentine of Gates Co. - one chestnut sorrell mare named Venus - 20 pounds, 11 sh.

Wit: Uriah Odom, Solomon King.

8. 1792 22 Oct. VOL. 3, page 51.

William Odom to my loving son, John Odom - for love and affection - the whole of my plantation whereon I now live which I purchased of SAM LEE and the land to the new line, likewise my sandbanks land I purchased of Charles Saunders on the river.

Wit: Jo Volentine, Thos. _____.

9. 1793 1 May VOL. 3, page 79.

James Riddick of Nansemond Co. VA to HENRY LEE - 264 pounds 16 sh. - 353 acres land on south side Beach Swamp in Gates Co. -beg. at a pine at the Beach Swamp and running thence John March's line south 86 west 30 poles to a white oak then n. 83 w. 3½ to a pine in a branch then west 14½ to a pine Speight's corner in all 42 poles to a pine thence s. 53 west 31 poles to a pine south 57 w. 135 to a white oak in a branch then south 24 e. 105 poles to a maple then south 14 e. 54 poles to a pine so. 83 poles to a pine thence n. 66 e. 174 poles to a pine John Lang's corner thence down the said Lang's line n. 24 e. 247 poles to the beg. tree.

Wit: Christopher Riddick, John Widbee.

10. 1795 15 August. VOL. 3, page 265.

Jesse Saunders to his son, Bray Saunders - for love and affection- land and plantation I purchased of William Odom on s. side of Somerton Creek beg. at a cypress standing on the side of said creek, a corner tree of Bernard March and said Saunders, then along said March's line to HENRY LEE's line, then along the said line to Jacob Walter's line and then along said Walter's line to John March's line to Somerton Creek and down various courses to first station.

11. 1795 13 Nov. VOL. 4, page 33.

John Lang and James Lang to HENRY LEE - 280 pounds - 275 acres joining John Bethey and James Bethey.

Wit: Stephen Rogers, Jonathan Rogers, Hillery _____.

12. 1795 VOL. 4, page 52

Uriah Odom and John Odom to Jethro Sumner of Nansemond Co. - 125 pounds - 2 pieces of land containing 209 acres - it being two tracts of land adjoining one piece being purchased by Richard Saunders of

JOHN LEE containing 100 acres by deed dated 18 Nov. 1795 it doth appear on records of Nansemond Co. VA.

13. 1796 4 March VOL. 4, page 125.

John Lang of Pitt Co. to HENRY LEE of Gates Co. - one negro man named Boson - 80 pounds. Wit: Mary Goodman, Wm. Goodman.

14. 1799 11 Nov. VOL. 5, page 52.

William King to Isaac Pipkin Senr. - 375 pounds - 500 acres joining John Lang, Henry Speight and Thomas Barnes.

Wit: Isaac Pipkin Junr., HENRY LEE, Henry Goodman.

15. 1800 15 Dec. BOOK 6, page 69.

Jemima Long of Gates Co. to HENRY LEE of Gates Co. - 20 pounds - land in Gates Co. - beginning at a pine standing in a branch thence running a line to a small oak standing in the edge of old field thence running to the Mill fork then to a sycamore standing in the yard - down branch to HENRY LEE's line - to run of Beach Swamp.

Wit: Richard Rawls, WILLIAM LEE.

16. 1800 8 Aug. BOOK 5, page 168.

Bray Saunders of Hertford Co. NC to Briant Sumners of Gates Co. 1000 dollars - 200 acres in Gates Co. beg. at a cypress standing at side of creek a corner tree of Bernard March's line and said Saunders, then along the said March's line to HENRY LEE's line and then along the said LEE's line to Jacob Walter's line then along the said Walter's line to John March's line and then along the said March's line to Somerton Creek and then down various courses to the first station. Wit: John Cross, Isaac Pipkin Junr.

17. 1801 5 March. BOOK 5, page 228.

Bray Saunders and Mary Bethey of Gates Co. to Joseph Freeman of

acres beginning at a pine a corner tree
Goodman and HENRY LEE then running Henry
ne - up said Goodman's line - then running
illiam Goodman and Henry Goodman's corner,
s line to a corner pine up in HENRY LEE's
o a corner pine in said LEE's line then
persimmon tree a corner in a branch of
LEE's line to the first station.
an, Mary Bethey.

To His Excellency Arthur Dobbs Esquire Governor
The Members of His Majesty's Honourable Council The Honourable
Mr. Speaker and the Rest of the Members of Assembly of North Caro-
lina Now met in General Assembly.

The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of the Coun-
ties of Chowan Bertie and Northampton Humbly Sheweth

That the Inhabitants of the Western Part of Chowan County
and the Northern Part of Bertie County and the Easternmost Part of Nor-
thampton County are very remote from their Respective Court Houses.
Which renders it very Grievous and Burthensome to them to attend their
Several and Respective Courts of Justice. General Musters Election of Burgesses
and Vestrymen &c.

Which grievance they Humbly Conceive may be Remedied

by Legislative Power by Erecting those three Remote and Sufferings Parts into a New County. And so order it that the Place for Holding the Court of Justice &c. may be near center. Or where your Excellency's Great Wisdom shall think most meet to the Relief of those Distrest Inhabitants. Which may be done without any Prejudice to the Old Counties. Your Petitioners therefore most Humbly Pray that this General Assembly will take the above Reasons into their Serious Consideration and Pass a Law for the three Remote and Suffering Parts of the Counties aforesaid to be Erected into a New County and Parish. With such Bounds, Priviledges and Immunities as to them in their Wisdom shall seem Meet and also Order that a Court House be built at some Convenient Place near the center. And for all which your Petitioners (doth ardently and) shall as in Duty Bound ever Pray.

The Votes of Chowan County

Ewd. Hare — James Ellis Senr.
John Lewis — [illegible]
[illegible] — John Shellen
Edward Warren Jr. Jno. Ellis
Mastro

Edward Warren Sr Jr — his mark

Stephen Eure

John Skinner — Robert Knight

John Carter — Jesse Harrell

Samuell young

Thomas Sparkmon — Wm (his mark) Jones

John Watson

William Long

Thomas Harrell Junr — his mark

John Doms

Richard Stallings — Peter Harrell

Wm Ellis — John Conant

John Hovel — David Harrell

Thomas Pargiter — James (his mark) Lasting

Jacob Jones

Robert Thomas — Jethro Harrell

Henry Lee — [illegible]

[illegible] — James Wiggins

[illegible] — Stephen Shepherd

John Shepherd

William Dance — John (his mark) Webb

Thomas Harrell Senr

Aaron Minshew — ~~William Fryer~~ ~~Jonathan [illegible]~~

Charles Sanders — Jacob Odom

William Morgan — William Sparkman

John Sparkman

Isaac Sumner — Aaron Harrell

James Wallis — Jonathan Smith

Samuel Taylor

[illegible] — William Green

John Green

James Conner — Jacob Bole

John Lee — Joseph Brady

[illegible] Morris

[illegible] Cooper

James Conner
John Lee
William Green
John Green
Jacob Ades Senr
Joseph Brady

Wm Merris
Robert Cooper
John Dickens
John Boys
Jacob [illegible]
Elias [illegible]
William Smith
David Watson
David Watson Junr
Henry King
Robert Parker
William Gatlling Senr
William Gatling Jur
John Gatling
22 George Gatling

In the Name of God Amen I Henry Lee of the State of North Carolinia and County of Guilford Being of Sound And perfect Mind and Memory blessed be God I do this Second Day of July in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and three Do Make and Publish this My Last Will and testament in Manner following Viz—

Item I Give to My son Henry Lee one Negro boy Named Peter Which he Hath All Ready Recevd Also I Lend to My son Henry Lee My Distill During his Life And After the Death of My son Henry Lee I give the said Distill unto His Children On Conditions that he has any Living at his Death And if None Living at his Death I Give the said Distill to be Equeally Devided betwext My three Children Joshua Lee Elizabeth Harrell and Abigel King by them freely to be possessed and Enjoyed forever — — — —

Item I Give and bequeath to My son John Lee the sum of twenty Shillings as I have Already Given and Delivered unto him What Ever I intended of My Estate for him — — —

Item I Give and bequeath to My son Joshua Lee One Negro boy Named Dick Which he hath Already Recevd to him and his Heirs forever — — — — — —

Item I Lend to My Daughter Elizabeth Harrell three Negroes Which She hath Already Recevd one Negro Girl Named Selah one Negro boy Named Sam one Negro boy Named Bob During her Life and After Her Death then I Give The aforesaid Negroes to her Children to be Equeally — — Devided Amongst them all by them freely to be possessed And Enjoyed for Ever

Item I Lend to My Daughter Abigal King three Negros Which
She hath Already Recevd One Negro Girl Named Dinah
One Negro Girl Named Jenny One Negro boy Named Jacob
Dureing her Life And after her Death them I Give the
Aforesaid Negros to Her Children to be Equally Devided
Amongst them all by them freely to be possessed and
And Enjoyed forever — — — — — — — — — — —

Item I Give to My Grandson Henry King Lee Son of Joshua Lee
One Negro Girl Named Creese Which he hath Already Recevd
To him freely to be possessed and Enjoyed forever — — — —

Item I Lend to My Wife Sarah Lee all My Living both Negros
And Howse hold Goods and furnitiure Which is Not Given
Away nor Sold nor Lent to any of the Children Dureing
Her Widdow Hood on Conditions that she Do not waste
Nor Destroy any part of the said Living that I have
Lent her if she should waste or Destroy any part of it
My Executors is to take it out out of her hands and
To Let her have Areasonable Supportance out of it —
Furthermore She is Not to Hier nor to Let out any of the
Said Negros to any other body but Joshua Lee David Harrell
Or William King if she hiers or Lets the Said Negros to
Any other body My Executors is to take them the said Negros
Out of her hands and to hier them to one of the three above
Above Mentioned Joshua Lee David Harrell or William King
For the Support of her Sarah Lee neither is she to Move
Any of the said household property that I Lent her from
Her Own house where me Henry Lee and Sarah Lee Now Lives
Without the Consent of three three Children Joshua Lee

Elizabeth Harrell and abigil King if she Do My Executors
Is to take that part of the property and Devide it Equeally —
Betwext My three Children Joshua Lee Elizabeth Harrell and
Abigail King

Also All the Remainder of My Living that I have not Given away
After the Death of My wife I Lent it to be Equeally —
Devided betwext My three Children Joshua Lee Elizabeth
Harrell and abigail King Dureing their Lives: and after
The Death of Joshua Lee then that part that I Lent him
At his Death I give it to be Equeally Devided amoungst
All his Children: And after the Death of Elizabeth Harrell
Then that part that I Lent her at her Death I Give it to
Be Equeally Devided amongst all her Children
And after the Death of Abigail King then that part that I
Lent her at her Death I Give it to be Equeally Devided
Amongst All her Children
Lastly I Make and ordain My trusty friends Z Joshua Lee
William King and David Harrell: My whole and soul Executors of
This My Last will and testament in witness where of I the said
Henry Lee have hereunto set My hand and seal
The Day and year above written
Signed sealed published
And Delivered by the said
Henry Lee as his Last
Will and testament — Henry Lee (Seal)
In presants of us

John Dougherty
John Caffey (Inst.) James Chilcutt
Michael Caffey

NORTH-CAROLINA.

KNOW all Men by these Presents, *That We* William King and Henry Lee

are held and firmly bound unto his Excellency Alex Martin *Esquire, Governor, Captain-General and Commander in Chief of the State aforesaid, in the just and full Sum of* Five Hundred Pounds, *current Money of the State aforesaid, to be paid to his said Excellency the Governor, his Successors or Assigns: To which Payment well and truly to be made, We do bind ourselves, each of us, our and each of our Heirs, Executors, Administrators and Assigns, jointly and severally, firmly by these Presents. Sealed with our Seals, and dated this* Seventeenth *Day of* September *One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-* one

THE Condition of this Obligation is such, That whereas the above bounden William King hath made Application for a Licence for a Marriage to be celebrated between him and Abigail Lee of the County of Bertie Now in case it shall not appear hereafter that there is any lawful Cause to obstruct the said Marriage, then this Obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full Force and Virtue.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the Presence of

Wm King (Seal)

Henry Lee (Seal)

KNOW all men by these presents, That We Henry Lee & William Gelling both of Gras County & State aforeaid are held and firmly bound unto the Governor and Commander in Chief of the said state, in the sum of One Hundred Pounds Current money of the State aforeaid pounds, current money, to be paid to the said Governor or his successors, Governors or Commanders in Chief for the time being. To the which payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals, and dated this Nineteenth day of May Anno Dom. 1784.

THE condition of this obligation is such, That if the above bound Henry Lee administrator of all and singular the goods and chattels, rights and credits of Sarah Denry deceased, do make or cause to be made, a true and perfect inventory of all and singular the goods and chattels rights and credits of the deceased, which have, or shall come to the hands, knowledge or possession of the said Henry Lee or into the hands or possession of any person or persons, for him and the same so made, do exhibit, or cause to be exhibited into the secretary's office, and one attested copy thereof to the county court, where orders for administration passed, within Ninety days after the date of these presents; and the same goods, chattels and credits, and all other the goods, chattels and credits, of the deceased, at the time of his death, which at any time hereafter shall come into the hands or possession of the said Henry Lee or into the hands or possession of any other person or persons, for him do well and truly administer according to law; and further do make, or cause to be made, a true and just account of his said administration, within one year days after the date of these presents; and all the rest and residue of the said goods, chattels and credits, which shall be found remaining upon the said administrat account (the same being first examined and allowed by the Governor and Council, superior or county court) shall deliver and pay unto such person or persons respectively, as the same shall become due, pursuant to the true intent and meaning of the act in that case made and provided. And if it shall appear that any will or testament was made by the deceased, and the executor or executors therein named do exhibit the same into court, making request to have it allowed and approved of accordingly, if the said Henry Lee above bounden, being thereunto required, do render and deliver the said letters on administration (approbation of such testament being first had and made in the said court) then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Sealed and Delivered, in Presence of

Lan Baker

Henry Lee Seal

his William Gelling Seal

.80

Inventory of the Goods & Chattels of the Estate of Sarah Dewing Dec^d April 15th 1789 Taken

To Money 14/11 Cash
To 1 Bed & furniture — (By Henry Lee
To 2 Iron Potts & 1 Pott Rack
1 Basin 3 Dishes & 4 Plates
Spoons
2 knives & forks 1 Buckle knife
1 Stone Pott 1 Small Mugg
1 Bottle 1 Drinking Glass
1 Chest
1 Skillett 1 Frying Pann
2 Chairs
1 Table
2 Baskets
The Hand Hogs
1 Water Pail & 1 Pigging
1 Linnen Wheel
To A parcel Bacon
To 4 Galls Molasses
to 1 Hammer

Henry Lee

In the name of God Amen I James Bethey of Gates County in the State of North Carolina am at this time weak of body but of perfect Mind and Memory doth think proper and fit to make and ordain this and know other to be my last Will and testament in manner and form following Vize It is my Will and desire that all my Just Debts and funarel charges should be paid & discharged in due time. And to the rest of my Estate that it hath pleased God to bless me with I Give and bequeathe as follows Vize ——

Item I Give and bequeathe to my Brother John Bethey My plantation and all the Land belonging to the Same to him and his heirs for Ever ——

Item It my Will and desire is that all the remainder of my Estate nator or kind whatsoever should be Equal devided amongst and betwen my brother John Bethey & my Sisters here under name Ann Parker Mary Cross & Prisella Cross to them and there heirs for ever ——

Item I Nominate and appoint my Brother John Bethey & my Cozen William Goodman my hole and sole Executors to this my last Will and testament And making nul and Void all Other will by me made or cause to be made as Witness my hand and Seal this Twentysicond day of August One Thousand Seven hundred and ninety six ——

Sealed & delivered in the presence
Thomas Goodman
Wm Goodman Junr

James his mark Bethey (Seal)

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